



President Barack Obama takes the podium to give his State of the Union address on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday Jan. 28, 2014. Vice President Joe Biden and House Speaker John Boehner of Ohio are behind the president. ager not to be limited by the legislative gridlock that has plagued the divided Congress, Obama underscored a go-it-alone strategy where he could bypass lawmakers and use executive actions to achieve his policy proposals.

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama used his biggest speech of the year Tuesday night to try to revive his stagnant second term, announcing he'll use the powers of his office to help the economy while bypassing the partisan

gridlock that has bedeviled his presidency. He is telling Congress he will act on his own "whenever and wherever" he can. Facing strong Republican opposition and low approval ratings after the worst year of his presiden-

cy, Obama did not propose major initiatives in his State of the Union address this time. Instead, he unveiled actions that don't need congressional approval: raising the minimum wage for new federal contracts, helping the long-

term unemployed find work and expanding job training programs. Those executive orders highlight themes Democrats are expected to press in the November congressional election as they cast themselves as champions

(AP Photo/Charles Dharapak)
for lower- and middle-class Americans who have been left behind in the economic recovery, even as U.S. corporations and financial markets have surged.

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WALL STREET GAINS AFTER 3 DOWN DAYS

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Cuba:

Castro calls for Latin American and Caribbean cooperation

PETER ORSI
Associated Press

HAVANA (AP) — Cuban President Raul Castro

The summit's main theme is fighting poverty, inequality and hunger. According to the UN's Economic Com-

habitants live in poverty and 11 percent in extreme poverty.

"While it is true that some

mented and unstable," Castro said.

Tuesday's session of heads of CELAC states began

Chavez, who succumbed to cancer last March.

Chavez, an outspoken U.S. foe, was a driving force behind CELAC's creation in 2011. It was conceived as an alternative to the Washington-based Organization of American States, which suspended Cuba's membership in 1962 shortly after Fidel Castro's revolution.

Proponents argued that the OAS has historically served Washington's interests rather than those of the region, and even Latin American allies of the United States have participated enthusiastically in CELAC.

OAS Secretary-General Jose Miguel Insulza attended the summit Tuesday as an observer, believed to be the first visit by a secretary-general to Cuba since its founding in 1948.

In his wide-ranging speech, Castro touched on the risk that global climate change poses to the region, especially low-lying Caribbean islands.

He expressed solidarity for Argentina's claim to the British-controlled Falkland Islands, known in Spanish as the Malvinas; for Puerto Rican independence; and for Ecuador in its legal battle with U.S. oil company Chevron. □



A large screen shows Cuba's President Raul Castro speaking at the opening ceremony of the CELAC Summit in Havana, Cuba, Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2014. Leaders from Latin America and the Caribbean are in Cuba to talk about poverty and inequality at a summit of a regional bloc formed as a force for integration and a counterbalance to the U.S.

(AP Photo/Ismael Francisco, Cubadebate)

called on Latin American and Caribbean leaders Tuesday to work together on pressing regional problems at a gathering of all Western Hemisphere nations except the U.S. and Canada.

In his keynote speech as head of the host nation for the summit of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, or CELAC for its initials in Spanish, Castro argued that the bloc should aspire to unity despite diversity, describing it as "the legitimate representative of the interests of Latin America and the Caribbean."

"We should establish a new regional and international cooperation paradigm," Castro said. "In the context of CELAC, we have the possibility to create a model of our own making, adapted to our realities, based on the principles of mutual benefit."

mission for Latin America and the Caribbean, 28 percent of the region's in-

progress has been made during the last few years, this has been slow, frag-

with one minute of silence to remember the late Venezuelan President Hugo

Dutch appeals court lifts block on Pirate Bay

TOBY STERLING
Associated Press

AMSTERDAM (AP) — A Dutch appeals court Tuesday overturned an order for major Internet providers in the Netherlands to ban access to the file-sharing website The Pirate Bay, saying it has proved impossible to enforce.

In 2011, the Hague District Court ordered providers Ziggo and XS4ALL to block customers from accessing a list of IP addresses linked to The Pirate Bay.

Then, the lower court agreed with copyright enforcement organization Brein that the site is frequently used to assist people in downloading copyrighted music, movies and

computer games. The Pirate Bay provides an index to locations where pirated files can often be found.

The Internet providers had argued they shouldn't have to act as censors, but the lower court said it is clear the site was often used to find copyrighted works. And it said it would be technically feasible to block the addresses without much trouble, as Brein requested.

On Tuesday, the Hague Appeals Court found that computer users easily evaded the ban.

They did this either by reaching cloned versions of The Pirate Bay at numerous alternate addresses, or by using sites that offer simi-

lar services.

Many just reached the site via "open proxy" servers — computers on the Internet that relayed information from home users to The Pirate Bay and back again anonymously.

That masked the users' location in the Netherlands and avoided the ban.

"This blockade imposed a violation of the basic right to freedom of commercial activity of the providers with insufficient justification," the ruling said. "It is of great significance that the providers themselves were not violating copyrights."

The Brein Institute's director Tim Kuik said he was considering appealing the decision to the Dutch Su-

preme Court.

"The appeal court's decision harms the development of the legal online market, which needs protection against illegal competition," he said in a statement.

Kuik said the decision was contrary to rulings made in other European countries and added that the Court of Justice of the European Union has yet to rule in a similar case.

Shortly after the ruling The Pirate Bay was directly accessible for XS4ALL clients. A similar case is still in the appeals process at the same court for the balance of the major Dutch Internet providers. □

APNewsBreak: New US airmen implicated in nuke cheat probe

ROBERT BURNS

AP National Security Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The cheating scandal inside the Air Force's nuclear missile corps is expanding, with the number of service members implicated by investigators now roughly double the 34 reported just a week ago, officials said Tuesday.

It wasn't immediately clear whether the additional 30-plus airmen suspected of being involved in cheating on proficiency tests are alleged to have participated in the cheating directly or were involved indirectly.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to disclose the information by name while the investigation is ongoing.

The Air Force announced on Jan. 15 that while it was investigating possible criminal drug use by some airmen, it discovered that one missile officer at Malmstrom Air Force Base in Montana had shared test questions with 16 other officers. It said another 17 admitted to knowing about this cheating but did not report it.

The 34 officers had their security clearances suspended and they were taken off missile launch duty. The Air Force did not respond to questions by The Associated Press on Tuesday about whether the additional people implicated in the investigation have also been taken off launch duty.

The Air Force has 450 intercontinental ballistic missiles, or ICBMs, on alert at all times, with a contingent of about 500 launch control officers, some number of which are unavailable on any given day due to illness or other reasons. So the number temporarily unavailable for duty because of the cheating scandal is substantial — about 14 percent of the total if the number of those who have been decertified is now double the original 34.

Each day, a total of 90 officers work in pairs inside 45 underground launch control centers, with each

center monitoring and controlling a group of 10 ICBMs. They work 24-hour shifts in the missile field and then return to their base. They generally do as many as eight of these shifts per month.

The tests in question are designed to ensure proficiency by launch officers in handling "emergency war orders," which involve the classified processing of orders received through their chain of command to launch a missile. These written tests are in addition to two other types of monthly testing on the missile system and on launch codes. An Air Force spokesman, Lt. Col. Brett Ashworth, said the Air Force would not discuss details of the cheating investigation, including any change in the number of suspects, until the probe is completed.

The drug and cheating probes are being handled by the Air Force Office of Special Investigations.

A "profoundly disappointed" Air Force Secretary Deborah Lee James, the service's top civilian official, told a Pentagon news conference last week that the alleged cheating at Malmstrom was discovered during a previously announced probe of drug possession by 11 officers at several Air Force bases, including at least two who also are in the nuclear force and suspected of participating in the cheating ring.

The Air Force's top general, Mark Welsh, has said the removal of 34 missile launch officers at one time appeared to be the largest such action in the history of the missile force. He said there is "absolutely no excuse" for cheating.

Malmstrom is home to the 341st Missile Wing, which operates, maintains and provides security for 150 nuclear-armed Minuteman 3 intercontinental ballistic missiles. This represents one-third of the entire ICBM force.

The cheating scandal is the latest in a series of Air Force nuclear stumbles. □

US South braces for rare ice storm

JEFF MARTIN

Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — Millions of people across the U.S. South were hit by a rare snow and ice storm Tuesday that brought traffic to a halt and cancelled about 900 flights at the world's busiest airport, in Atlanta.

Motorists from Texas to Virginia were warned to stay off the roads. Popular warm-weather tourist destinations, including New Orleans and some Florida

beaches, expected ice and snow over the next two days.

Nationwide, nearly 3,000 flights within, into or out of the U.S. had been cancelled Tuesday, according to statistics from the flight tracking service FlightAware.

On beaches in Alabama, icicles hung from palm trees. Hundreds of students in another part of the state faced spending the night in gyms or classrooms be-

cause the roads were too icy. Four people were killed in a Mississippi mobile home fire blamed on a space heater.

The governors of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi declared states of emergency.

In the Midwest, several states saw schools and other facilities close for a second consecutive day as dangerous wind chills were predicted. □



Helen Zhang blows some snow for her friend to make a picture as snow fell in a thick wave Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2014 in Tuscaloosa, Ala. A winter storm that would probably be no big deal in the North all but paralyzed the Deep South on Tuesday, bringing snow, ice and teeth-chattering cold, with temperatures in the teens in some places.

(AP Photo/AL.com, Vasha Hunt)

Shimon Peres, Hillary Clinton honor Edgar Bronfman

NEW YORK (AP) — Israeli President Shimon Peres joined Hillary Clinton and other world dignitaries in New York to honor the late Edgar Bronfman, longtime president of the World Jewish Congress.

The Seagram whiskey magnate spent years lobbying the Soviet regime to allow Jews to emigrate. Bron-

fman also spearheaded the search for hidden Nazi loot belonging to Holocaust survivors.

The Canadian-born Bronfman died at his New York home in December at 84. Under him, Seagram expanded and was eventually acquired by the French media group Vivendi Universal in 2000.

Bronfman received the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Bill Clinton in 1999.

In the 1990s, Bronfman pushed Swiss bank restitution to Holocaust survivors. The effort led to a more than \$1 billion settlement. Peres spoke via videotape at Tuesday night's event at Lincoln Center. □

Obama speech aims to bypass gridlock in Congress



On the day of President Barack Obama's State of the Union address, House Majority Leader Eric Cantor of Va., left, with House Speaker John Boehner of Ohio, talks with reporters after a GOP strategy session, Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2014, at Republican National Committee headquarters in Washington.

(AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

Continued from Front

"Inequality has deepened. Upward mobility has stalled. The cold, hard fact is that even in the midst of recovery, too many Americans are working more than ever just to get by - let alone get ahead. And too many still aren't working at all." Obama's approval ratings are down sharply over the past year. An AP-GfK poll this month found 45 percent of those surveyed approved Obama and 53 percent disapproved. That's worse than a year ago, when 54 percent approved and 42 percent disapproved, but an improvement over his ratings in December, when 58 percent disapproved of his job performance.

His ratings tumbled with the botched rollout of his signature health care overhaul. Republicans are focusing on that issue as they try to win control of the Senate and protect their majority in the House.

"In the coming months, let's see where else we can make progress together," Obama later said. "Let's make this a year of action. That's what most Americans want - for all of us in this chamber to focus on their lives, their hopes, their aspirations. And what I believe unites the people of this nation, regardless of race or region or party, young or old, rich or poor, is the simple, profound belief in opportunity for all - the notion that if you work hard and take responsibility, you can get ahead."

In the official response to Obama, a top House Republican says the president's policies are making life hard for Americans. Cathy McMorris Rodgers says the Republican vision "champions free markets - and trusts people to make their own decisions, not a government that decides for you." Still, Republicans are politely applauded the president as he addressed the full Congress before an audience of Cabinet members, ambassadors and millions of viewers in

prime television time. Though Obama touched on international topics, such as the war in Syria and Iran nuclear talks, domestic themes dominated the speech.

On the economy, he said, "Today, after four years of economic growth, corporate profits and stock prices have rarely been higher, and those at the top have never done better. But average wages have barely budged. Inequality has deepened. Upward mobility has stalled. The cold, hard fact is that even in the midst of recovery, too many Americans are working more than ever just to get by - let alone get ahead. And too many still aren't working at all."

"Our job is to reverse these tides. It won't happen right away, and we won't agree on everything. But what I offer tonight is a set of concrete, practical proposals to speed up growth, strengthen the middle class and build new ladders of opportunity into the middle class. Some require congressional action, and I'm eager to work with all of you. But America does not stand still - and neither will I. So wherever and whenever I can take steps without legislation to expand opportunity for more American families, that's what I'm going to do."

"Opportunity is who we are. And the defining project of our generation is to restore that promise."

Obama has some hope of winning support for a theme he's bound to discuss in the speech, overhauling America's immigration system, as Republicans try to build support among the country's growing Hispanic population.

Obama said in the speech that he is eager to work with Congress on measures requiring lawmakers' approval. "But America does not stand still - and neither will I. So wherever and whenever I can take steps without legislation to expand opportunity for more American families, that's what I'm going to do," he said. □

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Bitcoin forum sideswipes traditional banking



This photo shows bitcoin tokens in Sandy, Utah. A hearing Tuesday on the regulatory future of Bitcoin instead turned into a forum on the shortcomings of the traditional banking industry. (AP Photo/Rick Bowmer)

NATHANIEL POPPER
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A hearing Tuesday on the regulatory future of Bitcoin instead turned into a forum on the shortcomings of the traditional banking industry.

The hearing, called by New York state's top financial regulator, Benjamin M. Lawskey, gave five Bitcoin advocates the chance to discuss what they view as the advantages of Bitcoin over current systems of moving money.

"Solutions don't really come from the current industry," said Cameron Winklevoss, who, with his twin brother, Tyler, has invested in Bitcoin companies. The two were early players in Facebook.

Even Lawskey got in some digs when he complained that it took three days for his bank to transfer money to pay a credit-card bill at the same bank.

When Lawskey asked about efforts by banks to create their own Bitcoin alternatives, Fred Wilson, a leading venture capitalist at Union Square Ventures, doubted that anyone would build software around a currency created by the conventional banking system.

"No one is going to build on top of JPMorgan Chase's Bitcoin," he said.

JPMorgan's chief executive, Jamie Dimon, last week played down the potential of virtual currencies like Bitcoin, which have

become hot over the past year. Bitcoin aficionados argue that digital money could provide a way to dispense with the transaction fees and penalties charged by banks.

The hearing underscored just how ambitious Bitcoin advocates are in their desire to create a new payment system. For his part, Lawskey showed openness to regulations that would encourage the new technology. "We need to think internally about how we can be a more modern, digital regulator," he said. Lawskey has proposed the creation of a BitLicense for virtual currency firms, but the concept barely came up Tuesday.

Regulators have so far been reluctant to come up with specific rules for virtual currencies or even to specify who should be supervising them. Lawskey indicated Tuesday that he hoped to make New York the first state to provide regulatory clarity.

The panel Tuesday morning was the first of five in a two-day hearing, and testimony Wednesday may provide a more critical look at Bitcoin. But even Tuesday morning's panel was not entirely friendly. The panelists suggested that they were suspicious of any regulations that would force virtual currency startups to follow the same money-laundering laws imposed on traditional banks.

"If that's the condition of a company starting, than maybe we don't do it in the United States," said Jeremy Liew, a partner at Lightspeed Venture Partners, a firm that invests in Bitcoin companies.

But Lawskey and his colleagues said that the industry was going to need to find a way to operate under the same laws as other financial firms.

"If the choice for regulators is to permit money-laundering on the one hand, or to permit innovation on the other, we are always going to choose squelching the money-laundering first," he said. Hanging over the hearing was the criminal complaint unsealed Monday against a leading Bitcoin entrepreneur, Charles Shrem, and a business part-

ner, who were accused of helping people buy drugs online using virtual currencies. During the hearing, the Bitcoin Foundation, where Shrem was vice chairman, put out a statement indicating that Shrem had resigned Tuesday. Lawskey said the arrests showed the potential that virtual currencies have to smooth the way for illegal activity. But the people testifying said that Shrem's arrest showed that current laws were enough to stop wrongdoing in the Bitcoin universe, particularly because all transactions are recorded on a public ledger. In the end, the panelists did much more than defend Bitcoin - they spoke about it as an almost messianic force for good in the world. □

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After immolation suicide attempt, counselors to help

P. SOLOMON BANDA
STEVEN K. PAULSON
Associated Press
WESTMINSTER, Colorado
(AP) — Classes were canceled but counselors will be available to students after a 16-year-old boy set himself on fire at a suburban Denver high school in an apparent suicide attempt. Counselors will be at Standley Lake High School on Tuesday morning. Investigators had combed through the school with bomb detection dogs as a precaution, and no devices were discovered, Westminister Police Department spokeswoman Cheri Spottke said. "We don't have any indication that there's any threat

against the high school. We do believe that this is a suicide attempt," she said. Investigators were also talking to students, faculty members and family members to find out what happened, she said. The incident happened at a tense time for Colorado schools. On Thursday, Columbine High School, where two gunmen killed 13 people in 1999, went on high security alert after receiving a series of threatening phone calls. The alert applied to a half-dozen other schools in the area, in the same school district as Standley Lake, but was lifted the same day. On Dec. 13, student gunman Karl Pierson, 17, fatally shot Claire Davis, a 17-year-

old classmate at Arapahoe High School in Centennial before killing himself in the school's library. Pierson reportedly had threatened a teacher and librarian who had disciplined him

last year and allegedly was seeking that teacher when he entered the school, investigators have said. The boy at the suburban Denver school, whose name has not been re-

leased, was critically injured when he started the fire in the school's cafeteria at about 7:15 a.m. local time Monday. Spottke said he did not make any threats before he lit himself ablaze.

A custodian used a fire extinguisher to put out the fire before it could spread, Spottke said. Several other students were in the cafeteria at the time, but none were injured.

Spottke didn't know how the student set the fire, which caused extensive smoke in the building.

The school was closed Monday's incident was the latest to affect a Denver-area school in recent weeks.

Colorado state lawmakers are considering a bill to spend about \$250,000 to continue a hotline students and teachers can use to report threats and bullying anonymously. State officials say the hotline has prevented more than two dozen school attacks since its creation in 2004.

Westminister was home to 10-year-old Jessica Ridgeway, who was abducted on her way to school and killed in 2012. Austin Sigg, who was 17 at the time of the crime, was sentenced to a life sentence plus 86 years. Jessica's disappearance put Westminister and neighboring Denver suburbs on edge as police, aided by an army of volunteers, searched for her and then her killer. □



A police cruiser blocks the entrance to Standley Lake High School, where classes were cancelled after an apparent suicide attempt by a student, in Westminister, Colo., earlier this week.
(AP Photo/Brennan Linsley)

Prosecutors: Ex-doctor terrorized girl for years

RANDALL CHASE
Associated Press
GEORGETOWN, Delaware
(AP) — A former pediatrician accused of waterboarding his female companion's daughter by holding her face under a faucet terrorized the girl for several years and exercised total control over her, a prosecutor said Tuesday. In opening statements in the trial of Melvin Morse, deputy attorney general Melanie Withers portrayed Morse as a brutal and domineering "lord and master" of his household, abusing the girl for years while her mother acquiesced in si-

lence. Defense attorney Joseph Hurley told jurors that the girl and her mother, Pauline, have told many conflicting and false stories to authorities over the years and that the waterboarding charges are unfounded. Hurley said Pauline Morse herself told investigators that the alleged waterboarding was nothing more than hair-washing, which the girl did not like, and that it was sometimes threatened as a form of punishment. Melvin Morse, 60, has pleaded not guilty to child

endangerment and assault charges.

He has specifically denied police claims that he may have been experimenting on the girl. Morse has authored several books and articles on paranormal science and near-death experiences involving children. He has appeared on shows such as "Larry King Live" and the "The Oprah Winfrey Show" to discuss his research, which also has been featured on an episode of "Unsolved Mysteries" and in an article in "Rolling Stone" magazine. The allegations of waterboarding came after Morse

was accused of grabbing the girl by the ankle in July 2012 and, as her younger sister watched, dragging her across a gravel driveway.

He was arrested on misdemeanor endangerment and assault charges and released on bail.

When the girl, then 11, was subsequently interviewed, she told investigators that Melvin Morse also had disciplined her by holding her face under a running faucet at least four times since 2009, a punishment she said he had called "waterboarding." □

US Financial Front:

American consumer confidence hits highest since August



A pedestrian passes by sale signs on a store front window in Chicago. The Conference Board released the Consumer Confidence Index for January, on Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2014.

(AP Photo/Kiichiro Sato)

US home prices dip in November

JOSH BOAK

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. home prices fell slightly in November as colder weather slowed buying, ending nine straight months of price gains.

The Standard & Poor's/Case-Shiller 20-city home price index slipped 0.1 percent from October to November, partly reversing the previous monthly increase of 0.2 percent. But the index is not adjusted for seasonal variations, so the monthly decline partly reflects slower buying in the late fall as temperatures drop.

"November was a good month for home prices," said David Blitzer, chairman of the S&P Dow Jones index committee. "Prices typically weaken as we move closer to the winter."

Despite the overall decline,

home values have continued to rise in many Sun Belt cities. Las Vegas, Los Angeles and Phoenix have registered 20 straight months of rising prices.

But home prices surged for much of 2013, driven by big gains earlier in the year. Prices have risen 13.7 percent over the past 12 months.

Dallas enjoyed its strongest annual gain since 2000. And Chicago home prices climbed at their strongest annual clip since December 1988. Among the cities in the index, only Detroit prices remain below their 2000 level.

The Case-Shiller index covers roughly half of U.S. homes.

The index measures prices compared with those in January 2000 and creates a three-month moving average. □

MARTIN CRUTSINGER

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. consumer confidence has risen to its highest point since August on the strength of a brighter view of the job market and busi-

ness conditions.

The Conference Board, a business research group, said Tuesday its consumer confidence index rose to 80.7 this month from a December reading of 77.5. It was the second consecutive strong gain.

"Confidence appears to be back on track and rising expectations suggest the economy may pick up some momentum in the months ahead," said Conference Board economist Lynn Franco.

Consumer confidence is closely watched because consumer spending accounts for 70 percent of U.S. economic activity.

Amna Asaf, an economist at Capital Economics, said the January improvement was encouraging given the unseasonably cold weather during the month. She said it probably reflected the strong stock market gains that were occurring during the survey period, which ended on Jan. 16.

But she cautioned that the confidence gauge could retreat in the Febru-

ary reading if stock prices don't rebound from their recent declines.

For 2013, the confidence gauge averaged 73.3, the highest since 2007. But it is still below the reading of 90 that economists view as consistent with a healthy economy. The unemployment rate fell to a five-year low of 6.7 percent in December, down from 7 percent in November. But the improvement came for the wrong reason. Many Americans gave up looking for work and were therefore not counted as unemployed. Job growth also slowed in December with employers adding just 74,000 jobs. But economists believe that slowdown was a temporary blip from what they are expecting to be a strong job performance in the coming year, reflecting increased strength in the economy.

Many analysts are forecasting that the overall economy will grow at around 3 percent in 2014, up a full percentage point from 2013 growth. □

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Brody Column: Fighting cigarette smoking, 50 years later

JANE E. BRODY

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"Even 50 years after the first surgeon general's report on smoking and health, we're still finding out new ways that tobacco kills and maims people," Dr. Thomas Frieden, director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, recently told me. "It's astonishing how bad it is."

Frieden and public health specialists everywhere are seeking better ways to help the 44 million Americans who still smoke to quit and to keep young people from getting hooked on cigarettes.

"Fewer than 2 percent of doctors smoke. Why can't we get to that rate in society as a whole?" he wondered.

One reason: Smoking rates are highest among the poor, poorly educated and people with mental illness, populations hard to reach with educational messages and quit-smoking aids.

But when I mentioned to Frieden, a former New York City health commissioner, that the city's streets are filled with young adult smokers who appear to be well educated and well dressed, he said television seems to have had an outsize influence.

Focus groups of white girls in New York private schools have suggested a "Sex in the City" effect, he said: Girls think smoking makes them look sexy. In the past two years, middle-aged men, too, have begun smoking in increasing num-

bers after a half-century decline. Dr. Frieden cited "Mad Men," the popular TV series featuring admen in the early 1960s, when more than half of U.S. men smoked.

Frieden said that an anti-smoking effort begun in 2008 by the World Health Organization "can make a huge difference in curbing

packs and paid advertising on radio and television. - E for enforcing bans on tobacco marketing, advertising, promotion and sponsorships. Smoking is freely depicted in movies and popular TV shows.

- R for raising taxes, which studies have shown is the single most effective way to reduce smoking in the

man at the University of Sydney in Australia, have pointed out, "The vast majority of quitters do so unaided." A Gallup Poll conducted last year in the United States found that "only 8 percent of ex-smokers attributed their success to (nicotine replacement therapy) patches, gum or prescribed drugs," these experts noted. "In contrast, 48 percent attributed their success to quitting 'cold turkey' and 8 percent to willpower, commitment or 'mind over matter'."

They added, "For many smokers, having a reason to quit (a why) was more important than having a method to quit (a how)." For my husband, who smoked a pack a day for 50 years, the "why" was his distress at seeing two beautiful young nieces smoking; he made a pact with them to quit if they would, and he followed through.

Nearly 2 million children in U.S. middle and high schools have already used e-cigarettes, Frieden said. In an editorial in the Canadian Medical Association Journal last year, Dr. Matthew B. Stanbrook, an assistant professor of medicine at the University of Toronto, suggested that fruit-flavored e-cigarettes and endorsements by movie stars could lure teens who would not otherwise smoke into acquiring a nicotine habit. A survey in 2011 of 75,643 South Korean youths in grades 7 through 12 by researchers at the University of California, San Francisco, revealed that 4 of 5 e-cigarette users also smoked tobacco. It could happen here: Stanton A. Glantz, the study's senior author and a professor of medicine at the university, described e-cigarettes as "a new route to nicotine addiction for kids." □



This 1997 file photo shows a cigarette vending machine in a bar in Montpelier, Vt.

(AP Photo/Toby Talbot)

smoking, and we should fully implement what we know works."

The program is called MPOWER:

- M stands for monitoring tobacco use and the effectiveness of prevention programs.

- P for protecting people from secondhand smoke. Half the country still lacks laws mandating smoke-free public places. About half of children from non-smoking households have metabolites of tobacco in their blood, Frieden said.

- O for offering help to the 70 percent of smokers who say they would like to quit. Medical aids for quitting smoking, which can triple the likelihood of success, should become available, without a copay, to many more people under the Affordable Care Act, Frieden said.

- W for warning about smoking hazards through larger and more graphic messages on cigarette

population, especially among teens.

President Barack Obama has proposed an additional 94-cent-per-pack tax on cigarettes, which would yield \$80 billion to fund universal prekindergarten.

"A higher cigarette tax is not a regressive tax, because it would help poor people even more than the well-to-do," Frieden noted.

Smokers ready to quit can choose from among a cornucopia of aids as wide-ranging as nicotine substitutes, low-dose antidepressants, hypnosis and acupuncture. While none by itself has a high rate of success, different methods have proved effective for different people. Many former smokers required several attempts before they managed to quit for good. But quitting smoking does not necessarily require assistance. As two public health specialists, Andrea L. Smith and Simon Chap-



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Ukraine PM resigns, government offers concessions

JIM MARIA DANILOVA
Associated Press
KIEV, Ukraine (AP) — In back-to-back moves aimed at defusing Ukraine's political crisis, the prime minister resigned Tuesday and parliament repealed anti-protest laws that had set off violent clashes between protesters and police. The two developments were significant conces-

HEINTZ

the European Union and have since morphed into a general plea for more human rights, less corruption and more democracy in this nation of 45 million. The departure of Prime Minister Mykola Azarov removes one of the officials most disliked by the opposition forces whose protests have turned parts of Kiev, the Ukrainian capital, into a barricaded maze. However, Azarov's spokes-

the opposition's repeated demand that Yanukovich resign and a new election be held. Azarov's resignation came just before the opening of a special parliament session that repealed anti-protest laws that had set off violent clashes between protesters and police. Earlier this month, Yanukovich pushed through the new laws to crack down on protests and in-

move. "We have repealed all the laws against which the whole country rose up," he said. Over the weekend, Yanukovich offered the premiership to Yatsenyuk, but the opposition leader refused the post. Parliament will consider an amnesty measure Wednesday for scores of arrested protesters. But Yanukovich has said the amnesty is only possible if demonstrators clear the streets and vacate the buildings they now occupy — a condition that is probably unacceptable to many. The prime minister's departure on Tuesday brought encouragement to those at Kiev's sprawling protest encampment but no inclination to end their demonstrations. "The authorities are afraid and making concessions. We should use this moment and continue our fight to achieve a change of power in Ukraine," said 23-year-old demonstrator Oleg Rudakov. The opposition has accused Azarov of mismanaging the economy and condoning corruption, and has ridiculed the Russian speaker for his poor command of Ukrainian. Animosity toward him grew after the protests started in November when he labeled demonstrators extremists and refused to listen to any of their demands. As head of the Cabinet, he was also seen as bearing responsibility for the recent use of

force by police. Yanukovich's cash-strapped government just managed to avoid bankruptcy with the money pledged in November by Russian President Vladimir Putin. Russia spent \$3 billion to buy Ukrainian government bonds in December and has promised to spend up to \$15 billion total. Putin said Tuesday that Russia will abide by the deal to buy those bonds and offer its neighbor cheaper natural gas even if the Ukrainian government ends up being led by the opposition. Russia's main concern regarding Ukraine is to protect Russia's financial commitments, not geopolitical issues, Putin said in Brussels at a Russia-EU summit. "Will we revise our agreements on credits and energy if the opposition comes to power? No we won't," he said. The Russian leader also sharply criticized the European Union for sending high-level delegations to Ukraine during the anti-government protests, saying that could be interpreted as political interference. "The more intermediaries there are, the more problems there are," Putin said. "Considering the specifics of relations between Russia and Ukraine, it is simply unacceptable." In Washington, meanwhile, Vice President Joe Biden welcomed progress toward defusing the political crisis and urged Yanukovich to sign the repeal of the anti-protest laws without delay. □



Supporters of President Viktor Yanukovich rally in central Kiev, Ukraine, Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2014. The prime minister of protest-torn Ukraine submitted his resignation on Tuesday, saying he hoped the move would help bring peaceful resolution to the crisis that has gripped the country for two months. Mykola Azarov's resignation would remove one of the figures most despised by the opposition. It came as the parliament opened a special session that is expected to repeal harsh anti-protest laws that were imposed this month. Those laws set off the police-protester clashes in which at least three protesters died. The placards read: "Stop Maidan". (AP Photo/Sergei Grits)

sions to the anti-government protesters who have fought sporadically with police for the last 10 days after two months of peaceful around-the-clock demonstrations. The protests erupted after President Viktor Yanukovich turned toward Russia for a bailout loan instead of signing a deal with

man told the Interfax news agency that another staunch Yanukovich ally, deputy Prime Minister Serhiy Arbutov, will assume temporary leadership of the Cabinet, a move that is unlikely to please the opposition. Other key issues remain unresolved in Ukraine's political crisis, including

crease prison sentences for creating disorder. The laws also prohibited demonstrators from wearing helmets and gas masks as many have done for fear that riot police would try to violently disperse protests. Arseniy Yatsenyuk, a lawmaker and one of the opposition's top figures, hailed the parliament's

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Egypt locks Morsi in soundproof cage during trial

DAVID D. KIRKPATRICK
MAYY EL SHEIKH

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CAIRO - Mohammed Morsi, the deposed Egyptian president, appeared in public on Tuesday for the second time since his detention after the military takeover in July, this time locked in a soundproof glass cage as the defendant at a criminal trial.

The installation of the cage, a novelty in Egyptian courts, underscored the extent of the effort by the new government to silence the former president and his fellow defendants, about 20 fellow leaders of the Muslim Brotherhood. It dominated the courtroom debate, with lawyers for the defendants arguing that it deprived the accused of their right to hear or participate in their own trial and supporters of the government crediting the soundproof barrier with preserving order in the court. "The glass cage was the hero of today's trial," Egyptian state television declared. For his first appearance, at another trial in the same makeshift

courtroom last November, Morsi insisted on wearing a dark business suit instead of the customary white prison jumpsuit, and then stole the spotlight by disrupting the proceeding. He shouted from the cage, which was not soundproof, that he was the duly elected president and the victim of a coup, and his fellow defendants shut down the trial by chanting against military rule. Appearing on Tuesday in ordinary prison dress, Morsi passed his cage angrily and bided his time for a chance to speak again. When the judge turned on the microphone so that Morsi could acknowledge his presence, he shouted out, "I am the president of the republic and I've been here since 7 in the morning sitting in this dump," according to account on a Brotherhood website that was confirmed by people who had been present. "Who are you?" Morsi asked the judge, "Do you know where I am?" He insisted he did not recognize the court's authority to try him, in part since it was outside the constitutional

procedures for impeaching a president.

The judge, Shaaban el-Shamy, shot back: "I am the president of Egypt's criminal court!" He turned off the microphone in Morsi's cage and the ousted

defiance. When the microphone was on so the judge could ask a question, they returned to chanting against military rule.

Egyptian state television canceled plans to broadcast the session shortly be-

were excluded from the session altogether.

Morsi, who was chosen as Egypt's first elected president in June 2012, was removed from office a year later in a military takeover after widespread street protests. The new government installed by Field Marshal Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi described Morsi's removal as a second revolution, following the 2011 revolt that ousted President Hosni Mubarak. The military held Morsi and his top advisers incommunicado for months after army removed him from office. Prosecutors later began filing charges against them, including several punishable by death. In his first trial, which began in November, Morsi and others Brotherhood leaders were accused of inciting their supporters to kill protesters in street fights against their opponents outside the presidential palace in December 2012. (The police had refused to protect the Brotherhood from attackers, and the Brotherhood asked its civilian supporters to do it themselves.)



In this image taken from Egypt State TV, Egypt's toppled President Mohammed Morsi stands inside a glass-encased metal cage in a courtroom in Cairo, Egypt, Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2014. Morsi was separated from other defendants for the start of a new trial Tuesday over charges from prison breaks during the country's 2011 revolution, state television reported.

(AP Photo/Egyptian State TV)

president was silenced. The other Islamist leaders on trial in the same case were kept in a separate glass cage, presumably to prevent communication. At times, they turned their backs to the court in

fore it began, ultimately showing only limited clips later in the day. No other news organization was allowed to report live from inside the court during the hearing, and many, including The New York Times,

Brahimi: Syria talks slow but 'still at it'

JOHN ZEINA KARAM
HEILPRIN
Associated Press

GENEVA (AP) — Syrian government anger over a U.S. decision to resume aid to the opposition prompted the U.N. mediator to cut short Tuesday's peace talks, but he said no one was to blame for the impasse and that the negotiations would continue. A deal to allow humanitarian aid into Homs remained stalled, with the Syrian delegation demanding assurances the U.S. aid will not

go to "armed and terrorist groups" in the besieged city.

U.N.-Arab League mediator Lakhdar Brahimi said he was relieved that the government and opposition said they will remain in the daily talks through Friday, as planned.

"Nobody's walking out. Nobody's running away," he told reporters. "We have not actually made a breakthrough, but we are still at it, and this is enough as far as I'm concerned."

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UN Security Council authorizes EU troops to CAR

ALEXANDRA OLSON

Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The U.N. Security Council on Tuesday unanimously authorized the deployment of a European Union force to the Central African Republic to bolster French and African troops who are trying to quell sectarian violence that the United Nations has warned could escalate into genocide.

The council also approved financial sanctions against individuals who have committed human rights abuses, threaten peace and a political transition process and violate an arms embargo imposed earlier on the country.

French Ambassador Gerard Araud said the EU troops will be deployed to guard the airport in the capital, Bangui, where 100,000 people have taken refuge, mostly living on the tarmac. Araud said that will free up French troops to move beyond the airport and take up security operations in Bangui and

beyond.

The EU mission likely will comprise 500 to 600 troops. It remains unclear which countries will contribute. Thomas Mayr-Harting, the head of the EU delegation to the United Nations, said the EU forces would be on the ground in CAR within weeks but could not provide a specific timeframe.

"We are starting to stabilize the situation, but it's still very fragile," Araud said. "We really need the arrival of the European forces."

France has sent 1,600 troops to bolster some 4,600 overwhelmed African peacekeepers, but few have reached the hot spots farther north.

More than 1,000 people have been killed and nearly 1 million forced from their homes since December in violence pitting Christians and Muslims, militias and civilians.

The mostly Muslim rebels, known as Seleka, came from the country's far north in March 2013 to overthrow the president. □

US diplomat urging North Korea to release American

BEIJING (AP) — A U.S. diplomat on Tuesday urged North Korea to pardon imprisoned American Kenneth Bae, saying he is in poor health and needs to return home.

U.S. Special Representative for North Korea Policy Glyn Davies' call for Bae's freedom follows a news conference given by the missionary earlier this month at which he said his situation was growing more difficult. "We hope that they're willing to release Kenneth Bae," Davies told reporters following talks with Chinese officials in Beijing. "His family is understandably very worried about his fate and would like him to be returned to them."

Bae was arrested in November 2012 while leading a tour group and sentenced to 15 years of hard labor for unspecified anti-government activity. He was moved to a hospital last summer in poor health,

but said at his news conference that he was being transferred back to prison. Davies said the U.S. government had made direct appeals to North Korean representatives on Bae's behalf. While North Korea has released detained Americans before following appeals, it has shown no indication that it is willing to do so in Bae's case. Bae's supporters say he did no wrong, although he and his family have apologized for any violations of North Korean law. Davies said Bae has already been held longer than any other American in recent decades and, having been tried and convicted, now deserves to be set free.

"North Korea I think has made its point about Kenneth Bae and we are in frequent communication with the North Koreans to try to find a resolution to this issue. It's very, very important to us," Davies said. □



Christian residents jubilate as Seleka Muslim militias evacuate the Kasai camp in Bangui, Central African Republic, Tuesday Jan. 28, 2014, to relocate and join other Selekas at the PK11 camp. The departure of the fighters was greeted with screams of joy from the crowd of hundreds that gathered to watch them leave for another camp in northern Bangui. "We are free! This is our new year!" they shouted.

(AP Photo/Jerome Delay)

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Mexican vigilante legalization plan carries risks

MARK STEVENSON

Associated Press

MEXICO CITY (AP) — After months of tacit cooperation with rural vigilantes trying to drive out a cult-like drug cartel, the Mexican government is seeking to permanently solve one of its toughest security prob-

for human rights and due process among more than 20,000 heavily armed civilians, then eventually disband them and send them back home in the western state of Michoacan.

In other Latin American countries, similar experiments have created state-

more than seven-year war against organized crime that has seen it deployed as a police force in much of the country.

Vigilante leaders met Tuesday with government officials to hash out details of the agreement that would put avocado and lime

tryside.

If the latest experiment works, it will resolve one of the thorniest dilemmas in the barely year-old administration of President Enrique Pena Nieto: how to handle a movement that sprang up outside the law but successfully took on a pseudo-religious drug cartel, the Knights Templar, which Mexican authorities had been unwilling or unable to take on for years. Over the last year, the vigilantes, many of them former migrant workers who spent years in the United States, have seized a dozen towns terrorized by extortion, killings and rapes at the hands of the cartel's gunmen. Members of the Knights Templar have tried to portray themselves as soldiers in a reincarnation of a medieval religious order dedicated to Christianity and the expulsion of abusive police from their communities.

In many instances, Associated Press reporters have witnessed federal forces stand on the sidelines while the "self-defense" forces routed the cartel, and occasionally even aid the vigilantes by conducting joint patrols and manning highway checkpoints together. Mexican experts so far have widely accepted the administration's plan announced late Monday, calling it a smart way to maintain the movement's momentum against the

Knights Templar while protecting the government against charges it was ceding the rule of law in the "hot lands" of Michoacan, a rugged Pacific Coast state of rich agricultural land and mountains studied by marijuana fields and methamphetamine labs.

But in other parts of Latin America, the news stirred traumatic memories.

Claudia Samayoa, a human rights activist in Guatemala, said the thousands of deaths attributed to the army-backed Peasant Self Defense Patrols during the country's 1960-1996 civil war are too fresh to allow for more paramilitary forces in the region.

"The cure is going to be worse than the disease," Samayoa said. "It would be better not to go down that road, and instead strengthen law enforcement and the justice and public safety systems."

Margarita Solano, of the U.S. risk-analysis firm Southern Pulse, said Mexico's vigilantes have awakened memories of her native Colombia's experience with self-defense forces such as the "Convivir" movement that fought leftist rebels in the 1990s. While the groups were initially welcomed, some were later accused of rights abuses.

"I'm finding differences and certain similarities that are frightening," Solano said. □



Armed men belonging to the Self-Defense Council of Michoacan, (CAM), stand guard at a checkpoint set up by the self-defense group at the entrance to the town of Antunez, Mexico. The government announced this week that it had reached a deal with vigilante leaders to incorporate the armed civilian groups into old and largely forgotten quasi-military units called the Rural Defense Corps. Vigilante leaders met Tuesday Jan. 28, with government officials to hash out details of the agreement.

(AP Photo/Eduardo Verdugo, file)

lems with a plan to legalize the growing movement and bring it under the army's control.

But the risks are high.

To succeed, the government must enforce military discipline and instill respect

backed militias that carried out widespread human rights abuses as armed civilians turned to vengeance, or assisted in mass killings. The Mexican army itself has been accused of rights abuses during the

pickers with AR-15 semi-automatic rifles under army command. The Mexican military has a century-old tradition of mobilizing "rural defense corps" manned by peasants to fight bandits and uprisings in the coun-

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Paseo Herencia offers authentic island culture for "Dia di Betico"



PALM BEACH - One of the most unique aspects of Paseo Herencia (which literally means Heritage Walk) Mall in Palm Beach, is its determination to share the culture and history of Aruba and the accomplishments of islanders with visitors to the shopping center. The halls and walls of the mall recount important aspects of the island, punctuated by entertaining and free special events that celebrate these themes.

On Saturday, January 25, the mall brought "Betico Day," which commemo-

rates the birth date of one of the island's great statesman, Gilberto Francois "Betico" Croes, to Palm Beach, for the enjoyment of islanders and vacationers alike. Though "Betico" passed away in 1986, the mood is celebratory, for his enormous contribution to Aruban independence from the other islands of the Netherlands Antilles, or Status Aparte, in which he is

considered to have played a principal role. The MC for the evening, Inga Dijkhoff, explained his importance to island visitors, urging residents to obtain the definitive biography for Papimento readers written by his cousin, Gloria Croes, entitled, "Gilberto Francois "Betico" Croes - A Determined Leader." Paseo Herencia GM Valerie Pieterz-Camacho and Marketing Manager Candy Rasmijn consider there is very little livelier to be found on Aruba than entertainment by the family singing group founded by the great leader, now performing as "Group di Betico." He came from a large family with almost a dozen sisters and brothers, and they delighted their family and neighbors with their performances of traditional songs. The audience at Paseo

Herencia on Saturday evening was equally delighted with the energetic and melodic performance, with "Betico's" brothers, Tommy and Rudy, original members, leading the band. The evening was a tribute to not only its founder, but the works of the island's major composer, Juan Chabaya "Padu" Lampe. "Padu Del Caribe," as he is popularly known through the region, was co-composer with Rufo Wever of our national anthem, "Aruba Dushi Terra," and is generally referred to as the island's "Father of Culture." His body of work includes many beloved waltzes, ballads and mazurkas. The festive event and music energized the audience, with many jumping up to start dancing in the aisles. It was fine evening for the all family, with stirring entertainment for all ages. □



Sea TREK De Palm Tours named 2013 Sea TREK Operator of the year

DE PALM ISLAND - Sub Sea Systems, the manufacturer and developer of the Sea TREK® helmet diving program and equipment, distinguishes Sea TREK De Palm—Aruba as the 2013 Sea TREK operator of the year. Sea TREK operators from locations around the world were considered for this esteemed award and were evaluated based on their individual tour quality, innovation, staff professionalism, community outreach, guest comments, and overall commitment to the Sea TREK program. Sea TREK De Palm—Aruba has been in operation since 2000, making them one of the very first Sea TREK operations in the world. Although their initial dive site was nothing more than a sandy bottom, De Palm Tours has made incredible enhancements to their touring area, including sinking an airplane, a bus, and

a café table. Not only do these enrichments add to the novelty of the location, but also their presence has taken pressure off of the natural coral reef, and provided a new habitat to an abundance of sea life. During the Sea TREK experience,

guests are sure to spot octopi, eagle rays, sea turtles, and squid among the many reef fish, corals, and anemones.

Sea TREK is a helmet diving program that allows people ages 8 to 80+ to experience the underwater world without needing to know how to dive or even swim. If you can walk and breathe, you can Sea TREK! Sea TREK guided tours are offered at travel destinations world-

wide. The past year Sea TREK De Palm has faced many challenges, including one ongoing challenge that has threatened to shutdown business. The water visibility at the Sea TREK dive site has been severely affected by local construction, and continual mud runoff into the sea. Tours have had to be delayed or cancelled for weeks on end due to the poor visibility. Facing this difficulty, Sea TREK De Palm sought an alternate dive site on the other side of the De Palm Island. Miriam van de Plassche, manager of De Palm Island, describes the new location as a flat, sandy area with exquisite coral 'trees'. Because the



coral reef at this location is protected, Sea TREK De Palm will not be able to add their own enhancements, however their divers have been approved to create another underwater café and build various surprises

along the path. Sea TREK De Palm hopes to continue to utilize their original location when water visibility is suitable. Despite the challenges, Sea TREK De Palm had an astounding month in July. 674 TREKKERS experienced the underwater beauty of De Palm Island. The staff was busy, and certainly had a good workout that month... On land each helmet weighs 70 lbs (32 kgs) (the weight is less than 15 lbs (7kgs) once under water). 70 lbs lifted twice, on and off each of the 674 guests, equals 94,360 lbs. (42,800 kgs) lifted in one month! Aside from being in great shape, the Sea TREK staff's work ethic and awesome attitude makes them one of the more memorable aspects of the tour. The trained, certified and highly skilled Guides and safety divers are known for their engaging and entertaining manner. An overwhelming amount of guest comments commend the staff for their professionalism, encouraging techniques, and knowledge; "The divers who accompanied us were great, making sure plenty of fish were close by, and pointing out other sea creatures," says one guest. Another shares, "the staff was very helpful and really made the experience a good one." One Carnival cruise guest rated the tour 5 out of 5 and said, "the staff is great, professional and makes



you feel at ease...you will not regret doing this excursion. The only regret is that it had to end!" Many other TREKKERS acknowledge the Guides' skills, impressed by their hands-on, interactive, and patient approach to the Sea TREK tour. De Palm is also very involved in the local community. They have committed to giving Afl. 100,000 annually to a non-profit called the Family First Foundation. Ricky Malmberg, CEO of De Palm Tours says, "We are a family company, so our support of Family First ties in well with our core values." Additionally, the Sea TREK staff participates in fundraising and costal cleanups. Recently, the entire team went to the south coast of Aruba and removed plastic bags that had blown into and become tangled in the mangrove trees. Sea TREK De Palm is an exemplary operation, and its praises are best affirmed by its guests' comments. Ranked #2 on TripAdvisor, with over 2,600 5-star ratings, participants share: --"Sea TREK is phenomenal!" --"We decided to do the Sea TREK underwater walk... Walking along the ocean, interacting with the animals and seeing the sights was one in a million." --"...Experience of a lifetime and would do it again and again." --"By far one of the most amazing things I have ever done!" --"Simply fantastic! Thank you so much... or should I say 'masha danki!!!" Jim Mayfield, president of Sub Sea Systems, says, "Sea TREK De Palm truly exemplifies the best of SeaTREK. Their dedication to the program's standards and procedures, reef conservation, tour innovation, and their determination to overcome the past year's challenges is extremely commendable." De Palm Tours offers Sea TREK excursions daily, and will be opening the tour at the new location soon. For more information visit: www.depalmstours.com. Sea TREK is offered all over the world including destinations in the USA, Caribbean, Mexico, Asia and Europe. For a complete list of Sea TREK locations visit: www.sea-trek.com. □

Beauty On The Beach

Yadimi La Bastida

She is from Caracas Venezuela. This is her second visit to the island. She loves Aruba's Beaches.

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ATSA Inaugurates New Board At New Year's Party



ORANJESTAD - As per tradition, the Aruba Timeshare Association (ATSA) installed its new Board during its recent New Year's Party, which is held at a different venue each year on the second Saturday of January. This year, timeshare resort general managers and their spouses and partners gathered at the popular White Modern Cuisine restaurant at Palm Beach Pla-

za to inaugurate the New Year and the new ATSA Board while enjoying a very animated and delicious, five-course menu prepared by Chef Urvin Croes and his staff. Outgoing ATSA President Jan van Nes expressed his satisfaction with 2013 accomplishments and thanked all members for their comradeship and usual excellent coopera-

tion. "We trust that 2014 is going to be as good as the past year and, in passing on the gavel, I wish our new and former ATSA President Andy Osbourne an equally productive year," he commented. Jan also thanked Aisa van der Biezen, who stepped down as ATSA's Secretary, for multiple years where she did a sterling job and has now taken up a new

career challenge as Property Manager at Blue Residences. Appreciative thanks were also extended to new partners of the ATSA personalized Directory of Services, Rona Coster and Tina Escobedo, who in record time produced wonderful publications that will be used as in-house magazines in ATSA-member resorts. The new ATSA Board for 2014 consists of Andy

Osbourne - President, Fredy Albertus - Treasurer, Jan van Nes - Secretary and Jurgen van Schaik - Director. Andy Osbourne and Joe Najjar expressed words of thanks to the outgoing President upon which the gastronomical fest began and continued until midnight. ATSA is an Association that works on behalf of the timeshare community on the island. □



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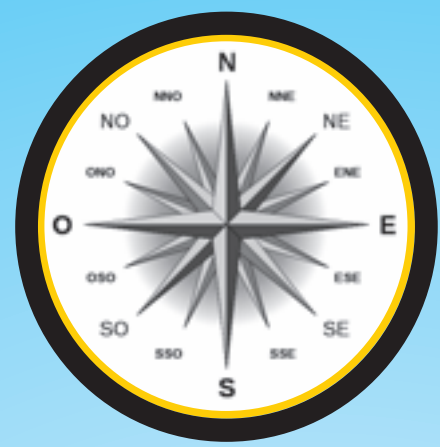
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Penguins register 15th win in 16 at home

The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Marc-Andre Fleury stopped 24 shots for his fourth shutout and Chris Kunitz and Deryk Engelland scored second-period goals, helping the Pittsburgh Penguins defeat the Buffalo Sabres 3-0 Monday night.

Kunitz scored his 26th goal and Engelland netted his fourth. Tanner Glass scored his first goal in 26 games, a late empty-netter that sealed it for the Penguins, who won for the 15th time in 16 games at home.

Sidney Crosby, who leads the NHL with 74 points, added two assists to extend his points streak in games against Buffalo to 16 games, matching his longest streak against any team.

Fleury, who leads the NHL with 29 wins, registered his 27th career shutout.

Ryan Miller stopped 31 shots for last-place Buffalo, which has lost seven of nine.

KINGS 1, SHARKS 0

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) — Anze Kopitar broke a long scoreless drought for Los Angeles and Jonathan Quick earned his third shutout of the season to help the Kings snap a five-game losing streak with a victory over the Sharks.

Kopitar's goal late in the second period ended a



Carolina Hurricanes' Jordan Staal celebrates his game-winning goal against Columbus Blue Jackets goalie Sergei Bobrovsky, of Russia, during the third period of an NHL hockey game in Raleigh, N.C., Monday, Jan. 27, 2014. Carolina won 3-2.

Associated Press

stretch of more than 154 minutes without a score for the Kings, who avoided their first six-game skid since December 2007. They did it with defense as Quick needed to make only 23 saves, stopping a flurry in the final seconds to seal the win.

Alex Stalock made 20 saves for the Sharks, who had won six straight games.

BRUINS 6, ISLANDERS 3

UNIONDALE, N.Y. (AP)

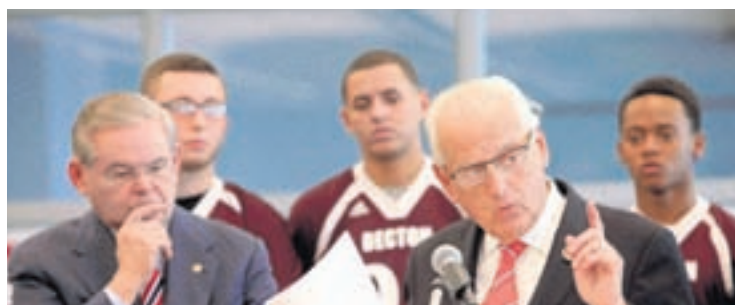
— The line of Patrice Bergeron, Brad Marchand and Reilly Smith combined for three goals and six assists to lead the Bruins to a seesaw victory over the Islanders.

All three linemates scored, and Loui Eriksson, Carl Soderberg and Zdeno Chara added goals. Chad Johnson gave Tuukka Rask the night off and made 34 saves.

Boston, which has won four of five (4-0-1), has 12 goals in two games.

Kyle Okposo, moved off the top line, had a goal and two assists for the Islanders, and Frans Nielsen and Michael Grabner also scored for New York, which lost its third straight (0-2-1). Kevin Poulin made 30 saves.

Continued on Page 20



U.S. Congressman Bill Pascrell, Jr. (D-NJ-09), right, joins U.S. Sen. Robert Menendez (D-NJ), left, and Becton football players to push for passage of the CONTACT Act, aimed at improving safety in youth sports, Monday, Jan. 27, 2014, during a news conference at Harry P. Becton Regional High School in East Rutherford, N.J. Wide receiver and senior Jake Gramlich, left, quarterback Karriem Royster, center, and wide Receiver Isaiah Stratton all spoke about their experience of getting a concussions.

Associated Press

NFL backs push for youth concussion protocols

EAST RUTHERFORD, New Jersey (AP) — The National Football League is joining two U.S. lawmakers in pushing for federal legislation aimed at protecting student athletes from the dangers of concussions. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is

developing national guidelines for schools and youth sport programs.

The legislation by Sen. Robert Menendez and Rep. Bill Pascrell would authorize \$5 million in first-year funding to help states train athletic staff and help ensure schools can implement the

protocols expected to be established by next year.

NFL executive Adolpho Birch joined the lawmakers for a news conference Monday at a high school in East Rutherford,

New Jersey, where the Super Bowl will be played Sunday. □

Tiger Woods says he's not far off his game



Tiger Woods examines his putt while waiting for his playing partners on the 18th green of the South Course at Torrey Pines during the first round of the Farmers Insurance Open golf tournament Thursday, Jan. 23, 2014, in San Diego.

Associated Press

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Tiger Woods doesn't sound too worried over matching his worst score in America on a course where he had won eight times.

"I wouldn't read anything into what happened Saturday at Torrey Pines," Woods said Tuesday after an 18-hole exhibition for past winners of the Dubai Desert Classic.

Woods was the defending champion at the Farmers Insurance Open when he sent seven straight holes making bogey or worse - including consecutive double bogeys for the first time in more than two years, on his way to a 79 as he missed the 54-hole cut.

"It was just one of those days that happens, and it was one of the trains I

just couldn't get off," said Woods, who was speaking for the first time since the third round in San Diego on Saturday. "There was nothing different with my ball-striking today (Tuesday) compared to last Saturday."

Woods had three early birdies in the "Former Champions Challenge," but lost momentum and finished with a shot into the water for double bogey on the par-5 18th hole. He shot 71 and tied for eighth.

Henrik Stenson, who won the FedEx Cup and Race to Dubai last year, and Rafa Cabrera-Bello of Spain, each had 66. They tied for first and each earned \$250,000. Rory McIlroy and Alvaro Quiros tied for third at 68.

Woods said he spent Sun-

day at home in Florida working on his putting before heading to Dubai.

He is a two-time champion of this event and has finished no worse than fifth all but one time in six appearances. That was in 2011, his worst year as a pro.

"I went home and had a nice day off," Woods said. "Worked on putting a bit in the backyard and that was it."

I am not that far off. It's just that I had one bad day, and that happens."

Woods will play the opening two rounds with McIlroy and defending champion Stephen Gallacher. Woods played the Tuesday exhibition with Gallacher and Fred Couples. He said he hasn't played with Gal-

lacher since the 1995 Walker Cup at Royal Porthcawl. Woods and John Harris defeated Gallacher and Gordon Sherry in a foursomes match.

Woods and McIlroy also played together a year ago in Abu Dhabi, where both of them missed the cut. Woods was one shot inside the cut until being assessed a two-shot penalty for taking what he thought was a free drop from an embedded lie in a sandy area.

McIlroy began his season two weeks ago in Abu Dhabi and finished one shot behind. He was penalized in the third round for not taking full relief from an area marked ground under repair. □

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Durant shines again as Thunder overruns Hawks

The Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)

— Kevin Durant scored 41 points, including the game-winning jumper with 1.5 seconds left, and the Oklahoma City Thunder rallied from a 14-point deficit in the second half to beat the Atlanta Hawks 111-109 Monday night for their eighth straight victory.

Durant scored 13 in the fourth quarter, including a 16-foot, step-back jumper with 25.5 seconds remaining that put Oklahoma City ahead for the first time since the opening 2 minutes. Paul Millsap tied it for Atlanta before Durant knocked down the decisive 12-footer while being guarded by DeMarre Carroll. Shelvin Mack tried to throw a pass to Millsap on the final play, but Thabo Sefolosha knocked it away. Millsap led the Hawks with 23 points. Durant's 11-game streak of 30 or more points is the longest in the NBA since Tracy McGrady did it in 14 straight games in March and April 2003.

Durant had another efficient outing, shooting 15 of 25 from the field and 5 for 7 from 3-point range. During his streak, the star forward has had four 40-point outings.

Reggie Jackson had 18 points for Oklahoma City (36-10), which takes the Western Conference's best record into a showdown Wednesday at Miami, the

two-time defending NBA champion.

RAPTORS 104, NETS 103

NEW YORK (AP) — Patrick Patterson stole Deron Williams' inbounds pass and made the go-ahead jumper with 6 seconds left, and Toronto stopped a five-game winning streak by Brooklyn for the second time this month.

Brooklyn had a three-point lead with 17 seconds left behind Paul Pierce in his best game with the Nets, but John Salmons scored on a drive with 12 seconds remaining before Brooklyn took its last timeout to move the ball into the frontcourt. Patterson stole the pass and fed Kyle Lowry, who got it back to Patterson for his jumper. Pierce was well off on a final attempt. Lowry finished with 31 points and seven assists for the Raptors, who moved 2½ games ahead of the Nets for the Atlantic Division lead.

Pierce scored 33 points, making seven 3-pointers in a strong bounce-back performance after going just 2 for 10 in his emotional return to Boston on Sunday. He had the Nets in position to win after scoring their last nine points before Toronto stole it.

TIMBERWOLVES 95, BULLS 86

CHICAGO (AP) — Kevin Love scored 31 points to lead Minnesota over Chicago.

Ronny Turiaf added 14



Los Angeles Clippers (32) Blake Griffin dunks against Milwaukee Bucks' Brandon Knight, back, during the first half of an NBA basketball game, Monday, Jan. 27, 2014, in Milwaukee.

Associated Press

points off the bench for the Timberwolves, who snapped a seven-game losing streak to the Bulls and won for the fourth time in five games overall.

Carlos Boozer had 20 points and 14 rebounds for the Bulls, who played without ailing center Joakim Noah (illness) and guard Kirk Hinrich (strained right ham-

string). D.J. Augustin added 19 points.

The Timberwolves were also missing their starting center. Nikola Pekovic exited with a sore right Achilles tendon midway through the first quarter. He had one point and one rebound in 6 minutes.

SUNS 124, 76ERS 113

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Ger-

ald Green scored 30 points and Goran Dragic had 24 to lead Phoenix past Philadelphia.

The Suns led all the way over the hapless 76ers, one night after rallying from an 18-point halftime deficit to win at Cleveland. Phoenix made its first six shots and 10 of 11, and raced to a 16-point lead. Green made his first seven shots until he botched a fast-break dunk. Markieff Morris scored 13 points and had four blocks. The Suns blocked 12 shots. Green and Dragic, Phoenix's starting backcourt, combined to make 19 of 25 shots and the Suns shot around 60 percent for most of the game.

Michael Carter-Williams had 22 points and 11 assists for the Sixers, who have lost 10 of 12.

CLIPPERS 114, BUCKS 86

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Blake Griffin dominated the paint with 20 points, Jamal Crawford scored 25 and Los Angeles ended its seven-game road trip with a win over Milwaukee.

Darren Collison added 15 points and seven assists in place of Chris Paul for the Clippers, who improved to 9-3 while their star point recovers from a separated shoulder.

Los Angeles finished its trip 5-2, a franchise best for its annual sojourn away from Staples Center to make way for the Grammy Awards. □

NHL Roundup

Continued from Page 18

HURRICANES 3, BLUE JACKETS 2

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — Jordan Staal scored the tie-breaking goal with 5:55 remaining to help the Hurricanes rally for a win over the Blue Jackets.

Eric Staal scored twice in the third period as the Hurricanes erased a two-goal deficit for their fourth consecutive victory. Anton Khudobin made 22 saves. R.J. Umberger and Derek MacKenzie scored for the Blue Jackets. Columbus lost its second straight af-



Edmonton Oilers' goalie Ilya Bryzgalov, of Russia, wears a mask bearing artwork done by his children during first period of an NHL hockey game in Vancouver, British Columbia, on Monday, Jan. 27, 2014.

Associated Press

AVALANCHE 4, STARS 3

DALLAS (AP) — Alex Tan-

ter stringing together eight wins in a row.

guay scored the go-ahead goal early in the third period, and Semyon Varlamov made it stand up for the Avalanche in a victory over the Stars.

Colorado led twice, but both times Tyler Seguin scored to tie the game for Dallas. Seguin, the Stars' leader with 23 goals, had not scored in 13 games. He also had an assist on Jamie Benn's first-period goal.

Varlamov made 41 saves. Colorado's Nathan MacKinnon scored on the game's first shot. Jamie McGinn also scored in the first period, and Paul Stastny connected on a power play in the second.

OILERS 4, CANUCKS 2

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) — David Perron scored three goals as the Oilers beat the Canucks.

Jesse Joensuu's goal at 2:20 of the third period made it 3-2 before Perron completed his hat trick with just over a minute left.

The Oilers (17-32-6) have consecutive wins for the first time this season. The Canucks (27-18-9) have lost two of three.

Edmonton posted its first win in four tries against Vancouver this season.

Jordan Schroeder had two goals for Vancouver, his first since March 21, 2013. □



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Super Bowl Notebook

Broncos' Rodgers-Cromartie might retire at age 27

The Associated Press

Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie is 27 years old, right in his prime as an NFL player.

Perfect time to retire.

The Denver Broncos cornerback said Monday he's giving serious consideration to hanging it up after the Super Bowl. He's not burned out, not worried about his health.

He just figures he's had a good run.

"I had a goal of playing 5 years, and I reached that," Rodgers-Cromartie said.

He's completed six seasons in the NFL, in fact, and could be in line to command plenty of money after making three interceptions in 2013. But Rodgers-Cromartie insisted that depending on how he feels after Sunday's game, he might call it quits.

He even knows what he would do instead of football. He'd go back to college and study psychology to become a guidance counselor at his old high school.

"I had my fun in this league," he said.

Rodgers-Cromartie came out of Football Championship Subdivision Tennessee State and figures he wasn't supposed to make it in the NFL at all from a small school, let alone surpass the average 2 to 3 years that players last in the league.

He wasn't a typical lower-division prospect, though, selected by the Cardinals with the 16th overall pick in 2008. Rodgers-Cromartie played three years in Arizona and two in Philadelphia before joining the Broncos. He regularly tells his teammates about his plan.

"They always think I am joking about it," he said.

Even if he sticks around

next season, Rodgers-Cromartie can't imagine repeating the feat of fellow Denver cornerback Champ Bailey, who's in his 15th year in the league.

Asked about Bailey's longevity, Rodgers-Cromartie exclaimed a curse word in admiration, then added, "He can have that."

GIANTS GUESTS: The Seattle Seahawks are preparing for the Super Bowl against the Broncos at the New York Giants' training facility, which opened in 2009 and is adjacent to MetLife Stadium.

When the Giants and Jets were picked to co-host the title game in May 2010, the owners of the teams had hoped they would become the first to play the game in their home stadium.

Neither was so lucky. The Broncos are training at the Jets' headquarters in Florham Park, N.J., a half-hour's drive away, which opened in 2008.

"It's what we signed up for," Giants co-owner John Mara said. "We certainly would rather be playing the game ourselves, but we knew there was a good chance someone else would be using our facility."

Broncos coach John Fox was assured by the NFL that the Jets' outdoor fields would be in good shape despite the cold weather and inordinate amount of snow that has hit the area this month. Because the Broncos have a bubble instead of a permanent indoor venue — that is being built now — Fox says his team might be jealous of the Jets.

"Our operations guy tells me that the guys will be complaining that it is so

much nicer than ours, so he is not real excited about it," Fox said. "We've heard nothing but great things."

The Seahawks have a multi-million dollar training facility in Renton, Wash., complete with a mammoth indoor field. The Giants' complex is similar to Seattle's, and the Seahawks worked indoors Monday.

"It's bonus Monday," Carroll said of the extra practice day.

Most teams don't work out on Mondays unless they are coming off an off week, which both Super Bowl clubs are.

The Giants, who were 7-9 this season in missing the playoffs for the fourth time in five years, had to clean



Denver Broncos cornerback Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie talks with reporters during a news conference Monday, Jan. 27, 2014, in Jersey City, N.J. Associated Press

out the first floor of their facility. They left their four Super Bowl trophies in a glass case on the first floor for the Seahawks to admire.

When asked if they were worried leaving any note-

books around with trade secrets, Mara laughed.

"If they were looking at our notebooks from this year, there's definitely not a heck of a lot that would help them," he said. □

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Eating Your Pots and Pans

By: Dr Carlos Viana

Certain metals are essential for human health like iron, zinc, copper, manganese, chromium, molybdenum, selenium, calcium and sodium. Of course, we need these only in trace, or very small amounts. These metals are found naturally in the earth where plants and animals absorb them and then pass them to us as food.

Other metals known as heavy or toxic metals are elements that cannot be metabolized by the body and include: mercury, nickel, lead, arsenic, cadmium, aluminum, platinum, and copper (the metallic form found in copper pipes, versus the ionic form required by the body). Exposure to heavy metals has been linked with developmental retardation, various cancers, kidney damage, and even death in cases of very high exposure.

The fact is that we are all being exposed to and absorbing harmful substances to some degree every day. Aluminum powder is found in kitchen pots, toothpaste and underarm deodorant and processed foods. Mercury from amalgam (silver) fillings breaks down and leaks a toxic gas into our brains. And, these are just a few examples. We may not be able to control all the toxic metals we are exposed to, but we can control some.

Most people are shocked to find out that metal and chemicals from your kitchen pots and pans can leach into your food, especially under high cooking temperatures. Even a small amount of metal or chemical can affect the taste of your food, not to mention, your health. Want a check for yourself? Put a half a

glass of clean water into one of your pots and scrub the bottom with a brand new plastic scouring pad. Scrub for thirty seconds, and then pour the water into the glass. What do you see? Would you drink that water? If the water is cloudy or if the water tastes metallic, you should consider changing your cookware.

Acidic and alkaline foods will increase the leaching of metals from your pots into your food. Generally, vinegar and fruits are the most acidic foods and include lemon juice, apples, blueberries, cherries, grapes, grapefruit, peaches, pears, pineapple, plums, and raspberries. The more acidic vegetables include: pimientos, tomatoes, or anything processed with vinegar or acid liquid, such as artichokes or beets from a jar or can.

Alkaline or basic foods include eggs, garlic, onion, potatoes, avocados, bananas, spinach, broccoli, carrots, peas, and my favorite, unsweetened chocolate. The body has a much higher tolerance for acid foods than basic foods. That is because acidic foods tend to push the body to a healthier more alkaline position.

Inexpensive and excellent at transferring heat quickly to food, aluminum has been used for kitchenware for a long time. Aluminum is fairly soft and will release more molecules into the food than harder metals used in other cookware. Alkaline foods will increase the amount of aluminum that leaches into the food. Aluminum cookware is definitely linked to an increasing chance of early onset Alzheimer's disease. Medi-

cal research has shown that approximately 20% of the daily intake of aluminum has been proven to come from cooking utensils (pans, pots, kettles, and trays) made of aluminum. In 1961, "The Happy Pan", the first US-made Teflon coated frying pan was introduced and became popular because Teflon is used as a non-stick coating. However, while Teflon is stable and nontoxic, it begins to deteriorate after the temperature of cookware reaches about 260 °C; 500 °F, and decomposes above 350 °C; 662 °F. Meat is usually fried between 400 and 450 °F (204 and 232 °C), and most oils will start to smoke, meaning they are turning rancid before a temperature of 500 °F, 260 °C is reached. Empty cookware can easily exceed this temperature upon heating. Overheating of Teflon generates highly toxic fumes and poses a serious health hazard to the human respiratory tract. Heated to its smoking point Teflon fumes are ten times as toxic as phosgene gas, a chemical weapon used in both World Wars.

In May, 2003, the environmental research and advocacy organization, Environmental Working Group, filed a brief with the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission petitioning for a rule requiring that cookware and heated appliances bearing non-stick coatings carry a label warning of health hazards to people and to birds. Cast iron cookware can leach dietary iron into food which is actually a good thing. People with anemia may benefit from the added iron in the food. However, Cast iron is very



heavy, rusts if not handled correctly and not practical for all types of cooking. Stainless steel is the better choice for cookware, but even good stainless, after it has been used and scoured with steel wool pad, or dinged and pitted through years of use, leaches some metals into your food. Stainless steel is actually a mixture of several metals, including chromium, molybdenum and nickel, all of which can trickle into foods. Chromium and molybdenum are needed by the body in very small amounts, but nickel, is a toxic metal known as a carcinogen or cancer causing.

We test patients for toxins contributing to health problems using hair. Hair growing out of the body brings its message of what the environment was like inside. Diagnosing a hair element test result, I can usually tell you what kind of pots and pans you are using in your kitchen. Nickel and aluminum are heavy metals we see often in hair toxicity test results.

Other metals we test for include lead, tin, arsenic and mercury. The Center for Disease Control acknowledges the value of hair mercury levels as a marker for exposure to neurotoxic methylmercury from fish in mothers and children. We see mercury in all ages also from exposure to dental amalgams, even in children who never

had silver fillings, but their parents did.

Get The Point! We may not be able to control everything in our environment, but we can control our food choices, our lifestyle and do our part in keeping our body's environment clean and healthy. If you want to know what toxins are being absorbed into your body and how to detox naturally and safely, visit, call or email so we can arrange a hair analysis test and personal health program for you. Meanwhile, if you want to stop eating your pots and pans, we are proud to be offering the healthiest option in cookware made with titanium as a new addition to our clinic services and health products. Call us for information and a free demonstration.

CARLOS VIANA, Ph. D. is an Oriental Medical Doctor (O.M.D.) having studied in Shanghai, China; a Board Cert. Clinical Nutritionist (C.C.N.), a fellow member of the Board Certified Association of Addiction Professionals (C.Ad.), the Chairperson of the Latin American Committee of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (IAOMT), a Rejuvenating Cell Therapist and specializes in Anti-Aging Medicine, has a weekly radio program, writes and lectures extensively. For information: VIANA NATURAL HEALING CENTER NV, Kibaima 7, Aruba, TEL: 585-1270, Web Site: www.vianaheal.com

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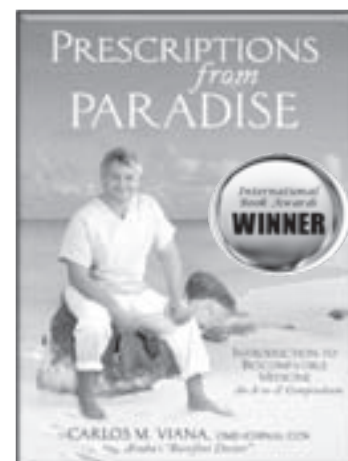
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Google hopes designer frames will sharpen Glass

BARBARA ORTUTAY

AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Google Glass is getting glasses.

The computerized, Internet-connected goggles don't actually come with lenses in its frame. Starting Tuesday, Google is offering an optional attachment for prescription lenses and new styles of detachable sunglasses.

The move comes as Google Inc. prepares to make Glass available to the general population later this year. Currently, Glass is available only to the tens of thousands of people who are testing and creating apps for it.

Glass is basically a small computer, with a camera and a display screen above the wearer's right eye. The device sits roughly at eyebrow level, higher than where eyeglasses would go.

It lets wearers surf the Web, ask for directions and take photos or videos. Akin to wearing a smartphone without having to hold it in your hands, Glass also lets people read their email, share photos on Twitter and Facebook, translate phrases while traveling or partake in video chats. Glass follows some basic voice commands, spoken after the words "OK, Glass."

The gadget itself is not changing with this announcement. Rather, Google plans to make various attachments available for people who wear glasses or sunglasses.

The Mountain View, California, company is now offering four styles of frames for prescription lenses. It's also offering two new types of shades, in addition to the one previously available. The frames cost \$225 and the shades, \$150. That's on top of the \$1,500 price of Glass.

Users can take the frames to any vision care provider for prescription lenses. Google says it is working with insurance provider Vision Service Plan to train eye-care providers around the U.S. on how to work with Glass.

Google says some insurance plans may cover the cost of the frames. VSP, which covers 64 million people in the U.S., will also provide coverage for the frames and prescription lenses as part of its partnership with Google. VSP's typical allowances for frames can range from \$80 to \$160.

Isabelle Olsson, the lead designer for Google Glass, says the new frames open the spectacles up to a larger audience.

She demonstrated the new frames to The Associated Press last week at the Google Glass Basecamp, an airy loft on the eighth floor of New York City's Chelsea Market. It's one of the places where Glass users go to pick up their wares and learn how to use them. Walking in, visitors are greeted, of course, by a receptionist wearing Google Glass.

"We want as many people

as possible to wear it," she said.

To that end, Glass's designers picked four basic but distinct frame styles. On one end is a chunky "bold" style that stands out. On the other is a "thin" design — to blend in as much as possible.

Olsson said Google won't be able to compete with the thousands of styles offered at typical eyeglasses stores. Instead, Glass's designers looked at what types of glasses are most popular, what people wear the most and, importantly, what they look good in. The latter has been a constant challenge for the nascent wearable technology industry, especially for something like Google Glass, designed to be worn on your face. When Google unveiled Glass in a video nearly two years ago, it drew unfavorable comparisons to Bluetooth headsets, the trademarks of the fashion-ignorant technophile.



The new Google Glass "Bold" prescription frames in "shale" color rests on a table at the Google Glass Basecamp space at Chelsea Market, Friday, Jan. 24, 2014, in New York.

Associated Press

In designing Google Glass, Olsson and her team focused on three design principles with the goal of creating something that people want to wear. These were lightness, simplicity and scalability. That last one means having different options available for different people — just as there are different styles of headphones, from in-ear buds to huge aviator-style

monstrosities.

Google Glass currently comes in five colors — "charcoal," a lighter shade of gray called "shale," white, tangerine and bright blue "sky." The frame attachments out Tuesday are all titanium. Users can mix and match.

"People need to be able to choose," Olsson said. "These products need to be lifestyle products." □



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Amgen Q4 profit leaps 30% on higher sales

LINDA A. JOHNSON
AP Business Writer

Amgen Inc.'s fourth-quarter profit jumped 30 percent due to higher sales for nearly all its drugs, an acquisition and a tax benefit. The world's biggest maker of biologic drugs said Tuesday that net income was \$1.02 billion, or \$1.33 per share, up from \$788 million or \$1.01 per share a year earlier.

Excluding one-time items, the maker of osteoporosis drug Prolia said earnings amounted to \$1.39 billion, or 1.82 per share. Analysts surveyed by FactSet were expecting \$1.69 per share. Revenue totaled \$5.01 billion, up 13 percent. Analysts expected \$4.81 billion. In after-hours trading, Amgen shares rose \$2.18, or 1.8 percent, to \$120.70.

Sales were led by Neulasta and Neupogen for boosting infection-fighting white blood cells, up 8 percent to a combined \$1.41 billion. Sales of immune disorder drug Enbrel rose 3 percent to \$1.12 billion. Six other established drugs saw sales increases of 10 percent or more. Those included Prolia, touted in ads by actress Blythe Danner. Only Aranesp had lower

sales, down 4 percent to \$180 million due to lower demand. Sales were boosted by Amgen's \$9.7 billion purchase of Onyx Pharmaceuticals Inc. on Oct. 1, part of Amgen's strategy to become a major player in the market for pricey cancer drugs. Onyx's Kypolis, a treatment for the blood cancer multiple myeloma, posted sales of \$71 million. □

EARNINGS

AT&T posts 4Q profit, service revenues gain

DALLAS (AP) — AT&T is posting stronger-than-expected earnings for the final quarter of 2013, helped by higher revenue from mobile and Internet service subscribers.

AT&T Inc. said Tuesday that it earned \$6.9 billion, or \$1.31 per share, in the October-December period. That's up from a loss of \$3.8 billion, or 68 cents per share, in the same period a year earlier.

The latest quarter's results included a pension-related gain of \$7.6 billion, tax expenses and other items. Adjusted earnings were 53 cents per share in the latest quarter, beating analysts' expectations by 2 cents. Revenue rose 2 percent to \$33.2 billion from \$32.6 billion. According to FactSet, analysts on average were expecting revenue of \$33.1 billion.

Yahoo revenue drop drags 4Q earnings lower

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Yahoo's latest quarterly report shows CEO Marissa Mayer is still having trouble bringing in more revenue as online advertisers spend more money at Google and other rivals.

The fourth-quarter results announced Tuesday serve as the latest reminder of challenges facing Yahoo Inc. The long-slumping Internet company hoped to revive its revenue growth when it lured Mayer away from Google Inc. 18 months ago. So far, though, Yahoo's revenue remains stuck in a rut. The company's earnings are rising largely because lucrative investments in Asian Internet companies made before Mayer's arrival.

Yahoo earned \$348 million, or 33 cents per share, a 28 percent increase from \$272 million, or 23 cents per share, a year earlier. □

Stocks rise on Wall Street after 3 days of losses

STEVE ROTHWELL
AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Investors' jitters over emerging markets faded on Tuesday and U.S. stocks rose for the first time in four days. Global stock markets stabilized after three turbulent days when investors grew worried about growth in

calm. In the U.S., earnings gains from big companies, including Pfizer, Comcast and D.R. Horton helped lift stock indexes. One area of disappointment, though, was Apple, whose weak revenue forecast pushed its stock to the biggest one-day loss in a year.

The stock market has

index rose 10.94 points, or 0.6 percent, to 1,792.50. The Dow Jones industrial average gained 90.68 points, or 0.6 percent, to 15,928.56. The Nasdaq composite climbed 14.35 points, or 0.4 percent, to 4,097.96.

Nine of the 10 sectors that make up the S&P 500 in-

slump that prompted the global sell-off in stocks last week. The lira was trading at 2.26 per dollar on Tuesday and has fallen 4 percent against the U.S. currency this year.

The Argentine peso also stabilized after a big drop on Friday when the government was forced to relax restrictions on the purchase of U.S. dollars. The peso dropped 0.3 percent to 8.02 per dollar on Tuesday.

Investors will once again be focusing on earnings Wednesday.

Fourth-quarter earnings at major U.S. companies are projected to rise by 6.3 percent in the fourth quarter from the same period a year earlier. Of companies that have reported results, about two-thirds have met or beaten expectations, according to S&P Capital IQ. After signs of accelerating economic growth in the fourth quarter, some investors are disappointed that companies aren't seeing stronger demand.

"People were hoping, generally, for better earnings," said David Lafferty, chief market strategist for Natixis Global Asset Management.

"We've sort of met expectations, but we haven't significantly exceeded them."

Investors will also be focusing on the Federal Reserve. Most analysts expect that the Fed will announce that it will further reduce its bond purchases by \$10 billion to \$65 billion following a two-day meeting that began Tuesday. □



Marine Harvest Chairman Ole Eirik Leroy, fourth left, is applauded as he rings the New York Stock Exchange opening bell, Tuesday, Jan. 28, 2014. He is joined by John Fredriksen, second from right, and company CEO Alf-Helge Aarskog, holding salmon, at right.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

China and other emerging markets. The sell-off began last Thursday, when a survey for January showed that Chinese manufacturing was set to contract, dragging down stocks in Asia, Europe and the U.S. The slide continued on Friday as currencies in countries including Argentina and Turkey slumped. On Monday, Asian markets slumped, although the selling on Wall Street eased. By Tuesday, though, global markets regained their

slumped in January after a banner year in 2013 that sent the market up to record levels. Many investors believe that rally has yet to run its course.

"I tend to interpret the choppiness and downward movement in share prices so far this year as just a little bit of a stumble off the starting block," said John Carey, a portfolio manager at Pioneer Investments. "This is a temporary situation."

The Standard & Poor's 500

dex rose. Health care and financial stocks were the two best-performing sectors. The technology sector was the only one to fall. Financial markets in emerging economies stabilized on Tuesday.

The Turkish lira edged higher against the dollar after that nation's central bank signaled that it was preparing to reverse course and raise interest rates to fight inflation. The currency's decline was at the center of an emerging-market

Pressure mounts for Apple to expand its horizons

MICHAEL LIEDTKE

AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —

Apple reshaped technology and society when Steve Jobs unveiled the iPhone seven years ago. Now, the trend-setting company is losing ground to rivals that offer what Apple has stubbornly refused to make: smartphones with lower prices and larger screens than the iPhone.

The void in Apple's lineup is a major reason why the company's quarterly revenue may be about to fall for the first time in more than a decade, much to the dismay of investors who are worried that Apple Inc. is losing its verve and vision. Wall Street vented its frustration after Apple reported late Monday that it sold fewer iPhones than analysts anticipated during the holiday season. Apple compounded that disappointment with a forecast raising the possibility of a slight revenue decline in the current quarter. It would be the first time that Apple's quarterly revenue has dropped from the previous year since 2003.

Apple's stock shed \$44, or 8 percent, to close Tuesday at \$506.50, marking the company's largest one-day drop in a year. The sell-off leaves the stock about 28 percent below its peak of \$705.07, reached in September 2012 when Apple's leadership in smartphones and tablet computers was still generating robust revenue growth.

Since then, Apple has been relinquishing market share to Samsung Electronics Inc. and other companies that primarily make devices running Google Inc.'s Android operating system. Those competitors offer a broader selection of designs and prices than the iPhone and the iPad.

That trend is one of the reasons that Apple's revenue growth hasn't exceeded 6 percent in any of the past three quarters. By contrast, Apple's quarterly revenue was consistently increasing by at least 20 percent two years ago and even exceeded 70 percent during the 2011 holiday quarter.

Apple remains in stellar shape financially, coming off a \$13 billion profit in its most recent quarter — more than all but a handful of companies make in an entire year. The Cupertino, California, company also is sitting on nearly \$159 billion in cash.

But Apple's stock is un-

tering to the upper end of the smartphone market with only one choice of screen size is undercutting the company's growth, International Data Research analyst Ramon Llamas said.

"There is a gap where Apple is not playing, and it's clear that many users want

call with analysts, Apple CEO Tim Cook made it clear that the 5C didn't sell as well as the company anticipated, though he didn't provide specifics. Cook hailed the 5S model as the star performer in the company's holiday quarter. With the 5S leading the way, Apple sold 51 million

lower-quality parts.

"Our objective has always been to make the best, not the most," Cook said Monday. He also said Apple will expand its horizons this year with new products that will push the company beyond smartphones and tablets. Most analysts expect an Internet-connected smartwatch and possibly a long-rumored television set that would run on the same software as the iPhone and the iPad. □



Apple CEO Tim Cook, right, and China Mobile Chairman Xi Guohua, left, present an iPhone 5s to a customer, center, during a promotional event for China Mobile's 4G iPhone 5s and iPhone 5c at a shop of the world's largest mobile phone operator in Beijing, China.

(AP Photo/Alexander F. Yuan)

likely to bounce back to its previous high unless the company's growth accelerates.

The challenges facing Apple have been most glaring in the smartphone market.

Phones in less affluent parts of the world are selling for less than \$200. By comparison, iPhones sold for an average of \$637 in Apple's most recent quarter. Even Apple's cheaper iPhone 5C is just \$100 less than the high-end 5S.

Meanwhile, a variety of Android phones boast screens measuring 5 to 6.5 inches diagonally, while the latest iPhones are all 4 inches.

Apple's insistence on ca-

some of these other things in a phone," Llamas said.

As a result, Apple's share of the smartphone market fell from nearly 19 percent at the end of 2012 to about 15 percent last year, according to IDC. Samsung remains the market leader with a 31 percent share at the end of last year, up a notch from 30 percent in 2012.

Apple tried to widen the iPhone's appeal with the cheaper 5C, which was essentially a recycled version of the iPhone's previous generation. To make the 5C look like something new, Apple dressed it up in a brightly colored array of plastic casings.

In Monday's conference

iPhones in the fiscal first quarter. Even though that set a record for the company, it represented a let-down because analysts had projected 55 million.

Analysts suspect that many of those iPhones are being bought by repeat customers who love the mobile operating software and other services, as well as the cachet that comes with the Apple brand. Cook said Apple still attracts a "significant" number of first-time iPhone buyers.

Jobs carefully cultivated Apple's luxury image before he died in October 2011, and Cook has given no indication he will risk tainting it with an inexpensive smartphone sporting

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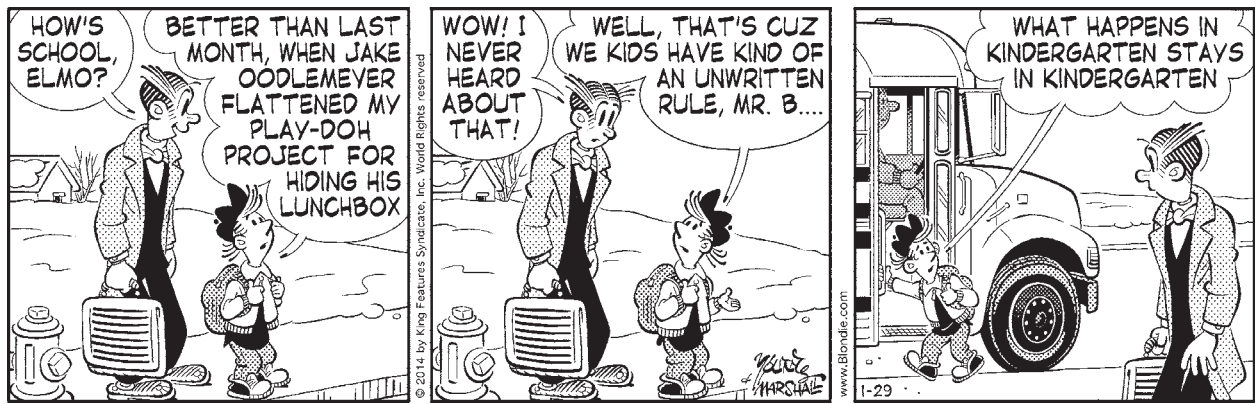
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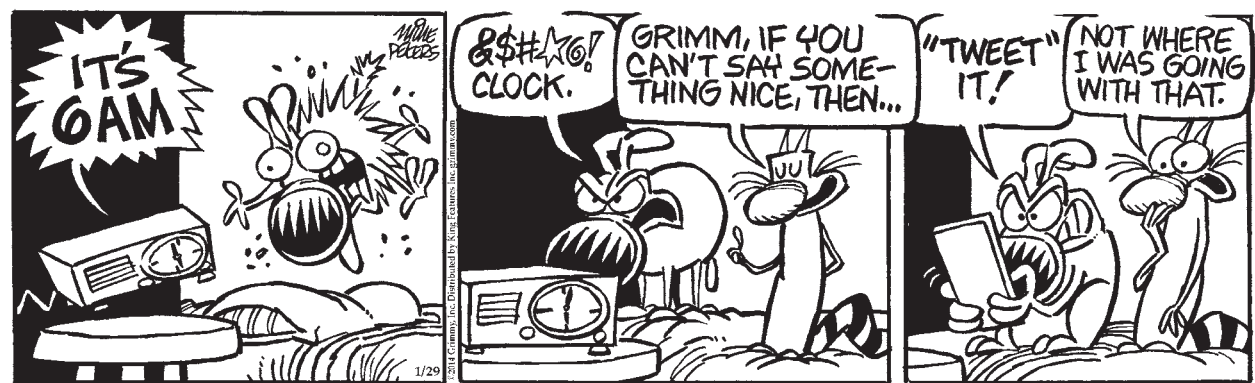
6 Chix



Blondie



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Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

		9	5	7	4	6		
	1						7	
6				1				2
9				8				5
1	5			6	7	8		4
7								1
2								7
	9			5			3	
		8	2	4	9	1		

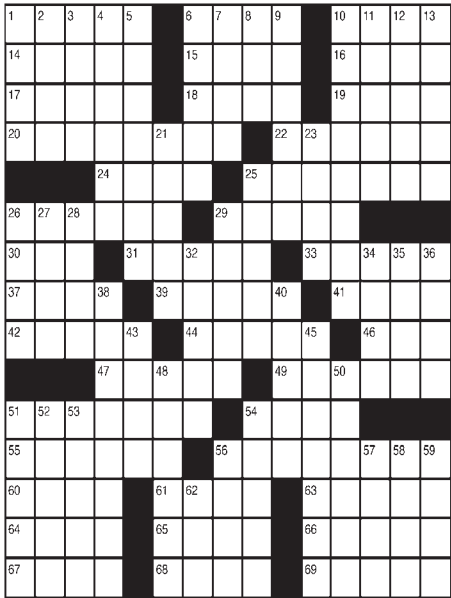
Difficulty Level ★★★ 1/29

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

2	9	8	5	4	6	1	7	3
1	3	4	7	9	2	5	8	6
6	5	7	1	8	3	2	9	4
5	2	9	8	3	4	7	6	1
3	7	6	9	5	1	4	2	8
8	4	1	2	6	7	3	5	9
4	6	5	3	7	8	9	1	2
9	8	2	4	1	5	6	3	7
7	1	3	6	2	9	8	4	5

- ACROSS
- Citrus fruits
 - Low prolonged cry of grief
 - Shopper's piece of paper
 - Get up
 - On __; nervous
 - Lay __; attack verbally
 - Explorer __ de León
 - Thrown for a __; confused
 - "Get lost!"
 - More devious
 - Clever
 - Evergreen tree
 - Modified
 - Protect
 - Of China or Japan
 - "Now __ seen everything!"
 - Breathing organs of a fish
 - Neighbor of Saudi Arabia
 - Pocket bread
 - Helped
 - Wild overnight dance party
 - Venetian blind pieces
 - Stinky
 - Morning grass blade moisture
 - __ over; float in the air above
 - Fully clothed
 - Outstanding
 - News, for short
 - Lurch quickly without control
 - Straighten out, as a knot
 - Border on
 - Comic Carvey
 - Workers' group
 - Easy stride
 - Related
 - Furiously angry
 - Specks
 - Tardy
 - Older kids



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews 1/29/14

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

HUNS	TOADY	USSR
ATOP	ADIEU	NAPE
GAME	KODAK	TIED
SHEARER	DONALDS	
	KIN	VENOM
EBBED	PIN	TEACH
SLUR	YON	REDSEA
SAX	SETTLED	TAN
ADORES	NOV	DISK
YEMEN	LEG	DARES
	COLOR	GOV
ALTERED	DECIBEL	
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- Drinks like Fido

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Scientists find ancient plague DNA in teeth

MARIA CHENG
AP Medical Writer

LONDON (AP) — Scientists say two of the deadliest pandemics in history were caused by strains of the same plague and warn that new versions of the bacteria could spark future outbreaks.

Researchers found tiny bits of DNA in the teeth of two German victims killed by the Justinian plague about 1,500 years ago. With those fragments, they reconstructed the genome of the oldest bacteria known. They concluded the Justinian plague was caused by a strain of *Yersinia pestis*, the same pathogen responsible for the Black Death that struck medieval Europe. The study was published online Tuesday in the journal, *Lancet Infectious Diseases*.

The two plagues packed quite a punch. The Justinian Plague is thought to have wiped out half the globe as it spread across Asia, North Africa, the Middle East and Europe. And the Black Death killed about 50 million Europeans in just four years during the 14th century.

"What this shows is that the plague jumped into humans on several different occasions and has gone on a rampage," said Tom Gilbert, a professor at the Natural History Museum of Denmark who wrote an accompanying commentary. "That shows the jump is not that difficult to make and wasn't a wild fluke."

The plague is usually

spread to humans by rodents whose fleas carry the bacteria.

"Humans are infringing on rodents' territory, so it's only a matter of time before we get more exposure to them," Gilbert said.

Still, he and other experts doubted a modern plague epidemic would be as devastating.

"Plague is something that will continue to happen but modern-day antibiotics should be able to stop it," said Hendrik Poinar, director of the Ancient DNA Centre at McMaster University in Canada, who led the new research. He said about 200 rodent species carry the plague and could potentially infect other animals or humans.

Poinar warned that if the plague transforms into an airborne version — which can happen if the bacteria reaches the lungs and its droplets are spread by coughing — it would be much harder to snuff out. That type of plague can kill people within 24 hours of being infected.

Poinar said scientists need to sharpen their surveillance of plague in rodent populations to try averting future human infections.

"If we happen to see a massive die-off of rodents somewhere with (the plague), then it would become alarming," he said.

There are several thousand human cases of plague every year, most often in central and Eastern Europe, Africa, Asia and parts of the Americas. □



In this Jan. 17, 2014 photo provided by McMaster University, graduate biology student Jennifer Klunk examines a bone sample at McMaster University's Ancient DNA Centre in Hamilton, Canada.

Associated Press

DNA shows ancient hunter had blue eyes, dark skin

FRANK JORDANS
Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — A hunter-gatherer who lived in Europe some 7,000 years ago probably had blue eyes and dark skin, a combination that has largely disappeared from the continent in the millennia since, scientists said Tuesday. The discovery, published in the journal *Nature* this week, was made by scientists from the United States, Europe and Australia who analyzed ancient DNA extracted from a male tooth found in a cave in northern Spain.

"We have the stereotype that blue eyes are found only in light-skinned people but that's not necessarily the case," lead researcher Carles Lalueza-Fox said in a telephone interview Tuesday with The Associated Press.

Lalueza-Fox, who works at the Institute of Evolutionary Biology in Barcelona, Spain, said the man's skin would have been darker than most modern Europeans, while his eyes may

have resembled those of Scandinavians, his closest genetic relatives today. The combination of blue eyes and dark skin, which is sometimes seen in people with mixed European and African ancestry, may once have been common among ancient European hunter-gatherers, he said. The researchers also found the man had genes that indicated he was poor at digesting milk and starch, an ability which only spread among Europeans with the arrival of Neolithic farmers from the Middle East.

The arrival of this group was also believed to have introduced several diseases associated with proximity to animals — and the genes that helped resist them.

But the hunter-gatherer whose remains were found in the La Brana caves, near Spanish city of Leon, already had some genes that would have helped him fight diseases such as measles, flu and smallpox. This came as a surprise to researchers, indicating that the genetic transition was

already under way 7,000 years ago, Lalueza-Fox said.

The lack of such genes among pre-Columbian populations in the Americas was one of the reasons they were so susceptible to these diseases when the Europeans arrived.

Researchers are hoping to make further discoveries from a second skeleton found at the site, said Lalueza-Fox.

Beth Shapiro, an associate professor of ecology and evolutionary biology at the University of California Santa Cruz, said the paper showed how old DNA could be used to learn more about the appearance and traits of ancient populations.

"I anticipate that this is just the beginning and am excited to see these sorts of analyses taking place," said Shapiro, who wasn't involved in the study.

"I look forward to what else we will learn once we have population samples of paleogenomes (ancient DNA)." □

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Stars line up to pay tribute to The Beatles

CHRIS TALBOTT
AP Music Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — There's an easy way to give pop music's most performance-hardened stars a case of the butterflies: Ask them to perform in front of The Beatles.

Many of today's top artists gathered Monday night to honor The Beatles' legacy, with Paul McCartney and Ringo Starr in attendance and late members John Lennon and George Harrison always in mind, at The Recording Academy's taping of "The Night That Changed America: A Grammy Salute to The Beatles."

John Legend and Alicia Keys sang "Let It Be." Katy Perry performed "Yesterday," while her boyfriend, John Mayer, teamed with Keith Urban on "Don't Let Me Down." And Brad Paisley and Pharrell Williams took on the challenge of "Here Comes the Sun," a song well-known to millions of music fans.

"We are honoring the most important band of all time, and trying to do justice to their song while two of them sit there," Paisley said in an interview before his performance. "We know, going in, we're not going to sing like them, and we're going to try to do our own thing with it. But ... there's reasons why people get blasted when they cover Beatles songs in any situation. But here we are, we're all doing that tonight. So, I guess it's an even playing field in that sense."

It was until McCartney and Starr took the stage, turning what had been a fairly sedate affair into an

arm-in-arm singalong of hits "Hey, Jude," "Sgt. Pepper" and "Yellow Submarine" that prompted movie stars and Grammy Award-winning musicians alike to sing along like giddy kids.

The telecast will air Feb. 9, 50 years after The Fab Four made their first appearance in front of an American TV audience on "The Ed Sullivan Show." It was a historic moment with more than 73 million Americans tuning in, changing pop culture in profound ways.

Even so, McCartney told the crowd he was hesitant to agree to commemorate it.

"What can I say about this evening, it's just amazing," he said. "At first when I was asked to do the show, I was wondering if it was the right thing to do. Was it seemly to tribute yourself? But I saw a couple of American guys who said to me, 'You don't understand the impact of that appearance on the show on America.' I didn't realize that."

Grammy producer Ken Ehrlich said the tribute event was more than a decade in the making and was produced at the Los Angeles Convention Center with archival footage from the band's "Ed Sullivan" era as well as their psychedelic and hirsute, hipster periods. Maroon 5 kicked off the show by re-creating the opening moments of the Feb. 9, 1964, appearance with "All My Loving," then "Ticket to Ride." Keys and Legend faced each other as they sat at matching black baby grand pianos. Mayer and Urban traded guitar licks, as did Gary Clarke Jr. and Joe Walsh on "As



Ringo Starr and Paul McCartney perform at The Night that Changed America: A Grammy Salute to the Beatles, on Monday, Jan. 27, 2014, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

My Guitar Gently Weeps." Annie Lennox and Dave Stewart of The Eurythmics reunited to play "The Fool on the Hill."

Dave Grohl and Jeff Lynne hammered deep cut "Hey, Bulldog," and Harrison's son Dhani joined Lynne and Joe Walsh on his father's classic "Something." Stevie Wonder performed "We Can Work It Out" twice, asking for a retake after a slow start on his first attempt. "Fire me, sue me," he joked with the crowd.

Starr took the stage next and marveled at Wonder's appearance: "I've got to tell you, what a

thrill following Stevie Wonder."

The drummer performed three songs alone, including "Yellow Submarine" at the request of Grohl's young daughter. McCartney took the stage next for five songs of his own before Starr returned for a finale that included a group sing-a-long of "Hey, Jude." It was the first time the two had performed together since 2010.

"We were in a band. It's called The Beatles," Starr said near the end of the show. "And if we play, John and George are always with us. It's always John, Paul, George and Ringo." □

Motley Crue to retire, plan 72 goodbye concerts

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Motley Crue is hanging up its guitars for good.

The heavy metal band plans to say goodbye with 72 concerts before retiring. The rockers made the announcement at a press conference Tuesday in Hollywood.

Alice Cooper will tour with the group. Tickets go on sale Friday.

A Motley Crue tribute album is in the works, as is a big-screen version of the band's 2002 book, "The Dirt." □



this Aug. 18, 2011 file photo, from left, Vince Neil, Nikki Sixx, Mick Mars and Tommy Lee of the band Motley Crue pose together onstage at a tribute to the band to launch the 4th Annual Sunset Strip Music Festival in West Hollywood, Calif.

Associated Press

Football moves Emmy Awards to Monday this year

LOS ANGELES (AP) — This year's Emmy Awards ceremony will air on a weeknight instead of its traditional Sunday slot. NBC and the TV academy say the ceremony honoring prime-time TV's best is set for Monday, Aug. 25. A host has not yet been announced.

The network said Tuesday that a potential conflict with NBC's "Sunday Night Football" led to the switch. The Emmy ceremony rotates an-

nually among the major networks and is required to air the week after the creative arts Emmy ceremony. The creative arts awards, which honor technical and other achievements, were already set for Aug. 16.

Sunday has become the home for most major awards shows, including the Oscars. NBC says the last time the Emmy ceremony was held on a Monday was in May 1976. □

Folk singer, activist Pete Seeger dies in NY

CHRIS TALBOTT

MICHAEL HILL

Associated Press

ALBANY, New York (AP)

— Pete Seeger, the banjo-picking troubadour who sang for migrant workers, college students and star-struck presidents, has died at the age of 94.

Seeger's grandson, Kitama Cahill-Jackson, said his grandfather died peacefully in his sleep around 9:30 p.m. Monday at New York-Presbyterian Hospital, where he had been for six days. Family members were with him.

"He was chopping wood 10 days ago," Cahill-Jackson recalled.

Just a couple years ago in 2011, the nonagenarian Seeger — buoyed by his characteristically soaring spirit, the surging crowd around him and a pair of canes — walked through the streets of Manhattan leading an Occupy Wall Street protest.

Though he would later admit the attention embarrassed him, the moment brought back many feelings and memories as he instructed yet another generation of young people how to effect change through song and determination — as he had done over the last seven decades as a history-sifting singer and ever-so-gentle rabble-rouser.

"Be wary of great leaders," he told The Associated Press two days after the march. "Hope that there are many, many small leaders."

President Barack Obama on Tuesday said Seeger used his voice to strike blows for workers' and civil rights, world peace, and environmental conservation.

With his lanky frame, use-worn banjo and full white beard, Seeger was an iconic figure in folk music who outlived his peers. He performed with the great folk minstrel Woody Guthrie in his younger days and wrote or co-wrote "If I Had a Hammer," "Turn, Turn, Turn," "Where Have All the Flowers Gone" and "Kisses Sweeter Than Wine." He



This Sept. 21, 2013, file photo shows Pete Seeger performing on stage during the Farm Aid 2013 concert at Saratoga Performing Arts Center in Saratoga Springs, N.Y. The American troubadour, folk singer and activist Seeger died Monday Jan. 27, 2014, at age 94.

Associated Press

lent his voice against Hitler and nuclear power. A cheerful warrior, he typically delivered his broadsides with an affable air and his fingers poised over the strings of his banjo.

In 2011, the canes kept Seeger from carrying his beloved instrument while he walked nearly 2 miles (3.2 kilometers) with hundreds of protesters swirling around him holding signs and guitars. With a simple gesture — extending his friendship — Seeger gave the protesters and even their opponents a moment of brotherhood the short-lived Occupy movement sorely needed.

With The Weavers, a quartet organized in 1948, Seeger helped set the stage for a national folk revival. The group — Seeger, Lee Hays, Ronnie Gilbert and Fred Hellerman — churned out hit recordings of "Goodnight Irene," "Tzena, Tzena" and "On Top of Old Smokey."

Seeger also was credited with popularizing "We Shall Overcome," which he printed in his publication "People's Song" in 1948. He later said his only contribution to the anthem of the civil rights movement was changing the second

word from "will" to "shall," which he said "opens up the mouth better."

His musical career was always braided tightly with his political activism, in which he advocated for causes ranging from civil



This Aug. 28, 1948, file photo shows Henry A. Wallace, listening to Pete Seeger, his banjo-playing singer, on a plane between Norfolk and Richmond, Va.

Associated Press

rights to the cleanup of his beloved Hudson River. Seeger said he left the Communist Party around 1950 and later renounced it. But the association dogged him for years.

He was kept off commercial television for more than a decade after tangling with the House of Representatives Un-American Activities Committee in 1955. Repeatedly

pressed by the committee to reveal whether he had sung for Communists, Seeger responded sharply: "I love my country very dearly, and I greatly resent this implication that some of the places that I have sung and some of the people that I have known, and some of my opinions, whether they are religious or philosophical, or I might be a vegetarian, make me any less of an American." He was charged with contempt of Congress, but the sentence was overturned on appeal.

Seeger's output included dozens of albums and single records for adults and children.

He appeared in the movies "To Hear My Banjo Play" in 1946 and "Tell Me That You Love Me, Junie Moon" in 1970. A reunion concert of the original Weavers in 1980 was filmed as a documentary titled "Wasn't That

a Time."

By the 1990s, no longer a party member but still styling himself a communist with a small c, Seeger was heaped with national honors.

Official Washington sang along — the audience must sing was the rule at a Seeger concert — when it lionized him at the Kennedy Center in 1994. President Bill Clinton hailed him

as "an inconvenient artist who dared to sing things as he saw them."

Seeger was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1996 as an early influence. Ten years later, Bruce Springsteen honored him with "We Shall Overcome: The Seeger Sessions," a rollicking reinterpretation of songs sung by Seeger. While pleased with the album, Seeger said he wished it was "more serious."

In 1997 he won a Grammy for best traditional folk album, "Pete."

Seeger was born in New York City on May 3, 1919, into an artistic family whose roots traced to religious dissenters of colonial America. His mother, Constance, played violin and taught; his father, Charles, a musicologist, was a consultant to the Resettlement Administration, which gave artists work during

the Depression. His uncle Alan Seeger, the poet, wrote "I Have a Rendezvous With Death" before being killed in World War I. It was a favorite poem of President John F. Kennedy, a classmate of Pete Seeger's at Harvard. Dropping out of Harvard in 1938 after two years as a disillusioned sociology major, he hit the road, picking up folk tunes as he hitchhiked or hopped freights.

In 1940, with Guthrie and others, he was part of the Almanac Singers and performed benefits for disaster relief and other causes.

He and Guthrie also toured migrant camps and union halls. He sang on overseas radio broadcasts for the Office of War Information early in World War II. In the Army, he spent 3½ years in Special Services, entertaining soldiers in the South Pacific, and made corporal.

He married Toshi Seeger on July 20, 1943. The couple raised three children. Toshi Seeger died in July at 91. □

It Takes A Generation



DAVID BROOKS
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Over the past decade we've had a rich debate on how to expand opportunity for underprivileged children. But we've probably made two mistakes. First, we've probably placed too much emphasis on early education. Don't get me wrong. What happens in the early years is crucial. But human capital development takes a generation. If you really want to make an impact, you've got to have a developmental strategy for all the learning stages, ages 0 to 25. Second, we've probably put too much weight on school reform. Again, reforming education is important. But getting the academics right is not going to get you far if millions of students can't control their impulses, can't form attachments, don't possess resilience and lack social and emotional skills.

So when President Barack Obama talks about expanding opportunity in his State of the Union address on Tuesday, I'm hoping he'll widen the debate. I'm hoping he'll sketch out a stage-by-stage developmental agenda to help poor children move from birth to the middle class.

Such an agenda would start before birth. First, children need parents who are ready to care for them. But right now roughly half-a-million children are born each year as a result of unintended pregnancies, often to unmarried women who are not on contraception or are trying to use contraceptives like condoms or the pill. As the University of Pennsylvania's Rebecca Maynard and Isabel Sawhill and Quentin Karpiw of the Brookings Institution have argued, if these women had free access to long-acting reversible contraceptives like IUDs, then the number of unintended births might decline and the number of children with unready parents might fall, too.

Once born, children are generally better off if they grow up within a loving two-parent marriage. It would be great if we knew how to boost marriage rates, but we don't.

For the time being, we probably should spend less time thinking about marriage and more time thinking about parenting skills. As Richard Reeves, also of Brookings, points out, if we could teach the weakest parents to behave like average parents - by reading more to their kids, speaking more, using consistent, encouraging discipline - then millions of children might have more secure attachments, more structure and

better shots at upwardly mobile careers. Programs like Nurse-Family Partnerships and the Baby College in the Harlem Children's Zone seem to be able to teach these parenting skills.

Once they get to elementary school, children need to learn how to read and write. But that can't happen in schools where 15 percent of the students are disruptive, where large numbers of students live with so much stress that it has stunted the development of the prefrontal cortexes, sent their cortisol levels surging, heightened their anxiety responses and generally made it hard for them to control themselves.

Therefore, we probably need more programs like Pamela Cantor's Turnaround for Children, which works in schools to help teachers and administrators create "fortified environments," in which overstressed children can receive counseling and treatment, in which the psychic traumas that go with poverty are recognized and addressed.

According to work done by Sawhill and others, a significant number of kids stay on track through the early years, but then fall off the rails as teenagers. Sawhill set a pretty low bar for having a successful adolescence: graduate from high school with a 2.5 GPA, don't get convicted of a crime, don't get pregnant. Yet only 57 percent of American 19-year-olds get over that bar. Only one-third of children in the bottom fifth of family income do so.

Over the next few years, we've got to spend a lot more time and money figuring out how to help people from poorer families chart a course through the teenage years. There's evidence that Career Academies help adolescents navigate the teenage rapids. There's some evidence that New York's "small schools of choice" yield measurable results. We as a nation have made awesome progress in reducing teenage pregnancies, so it is possible to change teenage behavior, even in the face of raging hormones. But it is harder to find successful programs geared toward teenagers than it is to find successful programs geared toward younger children. It feels like less money has been raised to help teenagers, fewer innovative programs have been initiated.

Robert Putnam of Harvard argues that when we design early education programs, they need to be "wrap-around." They need to have formal and informal programs that bring parents in and instill communal skills. With teenagers, we need more guidance counselors to help them become savvy, so they know how to work the system, and to respond when their needs aren't being met.

Putnam is emphasizing skills - for toddlers or teenagers - that are hard to see and measure. But that's the next frontier of human capital development: building lifelong social and emotional development strategies from age zero to 25. I'm hoping Obama goes there. □



Huckabee Spills The Beans



GAIL COLLINS
© 2014 New York Times

It's not often we think about Mike Huckabee. True, he has a talk show. But so does half the world. Kelly Ripa has a talk show. Geraldo Rivera has a talk show. How often do they come up in conversation?

Now, Huckabee is suddenly in the news, thanks to a speech he made at a Republican Party gathering in Washington, in which he dismissed the idea that the GOP has a "war on women" by ...

Actually, it's pretty hard to encapsulate what he said. Here's the most dramatic part:

"If the Democrats want to insult the women of America by making them believe that they are helpless without Uncle Sugar coming in and providing for them a prescription each month for birth control because they cannot control their libido or their reproductive system without the help of the government, then so be it. Let us take that discussion all across America."

Say what? Basically, Huckabee seems to be telling us that the Republican Party will not insult women by suggesting the federal government should require health insurance policies to include birth control pills in the prescription drug coverage.

He appears confident that women will find that an attractive proposition.

Huckabee was at a meeting of the Republican National Committee that was supposed to be

pondering ways to close the gender gap. Instead, he laid bare a fact that the party has always tried desperately to hide - that its anti-abortion agenda is also frequently anti-contraception.

Once upon a time, Republicans took the lead when it came to helping women get access to birth control. Now, the whole party is hostage to an anti-abortion movement that harbors a wide-ranging contempt for sex outside of marriage, combined with a strong streak of opposition to any form of artificial birth control, even for married couples.

"What does that make her? It makes her a slut, right?" Rush Limbaugh said of Sandra Fluke, the law student who was lobbying for inclusion of contraceptives in health care plans. However garbled his language, Huckabee's control-their-libido harks back to the same mindset.

This is a super political strategy. Let's target all the voters who waited until they were married and then practiced the rhythm method. The Huckabee speech also raises the question of what happened to Mike Huckabee. Remember him in the old days? Like Bill Clinton, he was a popular governor of Arkansas.

Unlike Bill Clinton, he used to fry squirrels in a popcorn popper when he was in college. That has absolutely nothing to do with this story, but I couldn't resist bringing it up.

Huckabee was always a social conservative - as governor he once tried to stop a mentally disabled girl who had been raped by her stepfather from getting an abortion. But he also signed a law requiring Arkansas employers to cover contraceptives under their insurance plans.

Yes!

This version of Mike Huckabee ran for president in 2008, and he was a front-runner for a while, because he was the most likable candidate. Huckabee was the one who smiled and wanted

everybody to get along. He also calmly accepted flak from his opponents for having supported the idea of allowing the children of illegal immigrants to qualify for state scholarships in Arkansas. ("We're a better country than to punish children for what their parents did.")

That Mike Huckabee was the author of a book - well, actually he is the author of an entire library of books. But the precampaign book for 2008 was "From Hope to Higher Ground" in which he suggested that the best solution to illegal immigrants was a path to citizenship. (In his to-do lists for readers, he suggested attending a naturalization ceremony - along with buying Girl Scout cookies and always saying "thank you.")

Well, the lovable Mike lost and went on to a career as a radio commentator and a Fox TV host. Perhaps he wanted to juice ratings. Perhaps he wanted a new path to the presidency in 2016. But over the past five years, as his party got raw and angry and mean, Huckabee got raw and angry and mean.

In his 2011 book "A Simple Government," he railed about everything from giving illegal immigrants a path to citizenship (Amnesty!) to subsidized school breakfasts. He compared President Barack Obama to "an arrogant nerd."

Last summer, he said that when Muslims go to a mosque to pray "they come out of there like uncorked animals - throwing rocks and burning cars." After the school massacre at Sandy Hook, Huckabee asked why Americans should be surprised since "we have systematically removed God from our schools." He later tried to roll that one back a bit.

And there was no backtracking after the "Uncle Sugar" speech. In fact, Huckabee sent an email to his supporters replaying his remarks. Then he asked for a donation. □

MASTERING THE ART OF MARINARA

JULIA MOSKIN

© 2014 New York Times

The first thing to know about marinara: it's not a synonym for tomato sauce.

"Marinara is very specific," says Oretta Zanini de Vita, who has just published a very specific cookbook on how to pair pasta shapes with pasta sauces. "Tomato sauce is a completely different thing."

"It's all about quick, and light, and feeling the tomatoes in your mouth," said Lidia Bastianich, who recently published her 12th book on the food of Italy, "Lidia's Commonsense Italian Cooking" (Knopf).

Real marinara sauce has the taste and juice of fresh tomato, but also a velvety texture and the rich bite of olive oil: even the best jarred sauces can't pull that off. And because it comes together from pantry ingredients before the pasta water even comes to a boil, it's a recipe that home cooks should master. The trick to perfect marinara is to cook it at a vigorous simmer, so that the tomatoes are cooked through just as the sauce becomes thick. The tomato pieces hold their shape, the seeds don't have time to turn bitter, and the color stays bright red. Done right, it explains why spaghetti with tomato sauce is a dish that a person might crave virtually every day, as fundamental as bread and butter or rice and kimchi.

"It's a real chef's flavor," Bastianich said. "It takes work to get to the simplicity."

Marinara became a catch-all term for tomato sauce in this country because its ingredients are all native to Campania, the area around Naples that sent so many families to the United States in the last century. Italian-American cooks treated it as a multifunctional ingredient: a starting point for other sauces, the base of a soup, the acid that breaks down meat in a stew. Strictly speaking, it consists of olive oil, ripe tomatoes, a substantial hit of garlic, a nip of dried chili and dried oregano (or, in modern times, fresh basil). The list of things that do

not belong in marinara is much longer: no onions, no wine, no meatballs, no anchovies, no tomato paste, no butter (as in Marcella Hazan's well-loved sauce) and almost no time.

"Everyone thinks you have

a particular method and specific ingredients. If you usually buy jarred sauce, or think of tomato sauce as too basic to merit much attention, put Bastianich's precise recipe to the test. Use a skillet, not a sauce-

keeps the flavor under control," Bastianich said.

The explanations of why this sauce is called alla marina-

ra - of the fisherman (or his wife) - when it doesn't contain fish, are many and convoluted. It may be because this light, quick-cooking sauce is well suited to fish and shellfish. Or because fishermen had to cook dinner out on their boats in the Bay of Naples, and didn't have time or fuel to simmer a sauce for hours.

Or, according to Zanini de Vita, who has just published "Sauces and Shapes: Pasta the Italian Way" (W.W. Norton), it could be that the Neapolitan fishermen had a trick to deepen the flavor. "They would put a stone from the sea to boil in the sauce," she said. This sounded preposterous until she added, "or some seaweed," which makes more sense: seaweeds and sea salt both contain natural glutamates, which produce umami, a rounded, savory flavor that makes food satisfying.

Zanini de Vita and her co-author, Maureen B. Fant (an American who writes for The New York Times from Rome), agree that marinara can be paired with almost any shape of pasta, making it unusually versatile within the Italian canon. (Smooth tomato sauces,

holes or cups to catch the sauce.)

Strictly speaking, marinara should not be served with cheese.

And finally, marinara should never be spooned on top of plain pasta, but tossed with it in a preheated serving bowl - or in the cooking pot - as soon as the pasta is ready. This may be the most important step of all, but American cooks often don't observe protocol, said Fant, who teaches classes in Roman cooking. "You never, never leave the pasta sitting around in a colander," she said. "In Italy you could go to jail for that."

MARINARA SAUCE

Adapted from "Lidia's Commonsense Italian Cooking," by Lidia Bastianich (Knopf, 2013)

Time: 25 minutes

Yield: 3 1/2 cups, enough for 1 pound of pasta

1 28-ounce can whole San Marzano tomatoes, certified DOP if possible

1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil
7 garlic cloves, peeled and slivered

Small dried whole chili, or pinch crushed red pepper flakes

1 teaspoon kosher salt

1 large fresh basil sprig, or 1/4 teaspoon dried oregano, more to taste

1. Pour tomatoes into a large bowl and crush with your hands. Pour 1 cup water into can and slosh it around to get tomato juices. Reserve.

2. In a large skillet (do not use a deep pot) over medium heat, heat the oil. When it is hot, add garlic.

3. As soon as garlic is sizzling (do not let it brown), add the tomatoes, then the reserved tomato water. Add whole chili or red pepper flakes, oregano (if using) and salt. Stir.

4. Place basil sprig, including stem, on the surface (like a flower). Let it wilt, then submerge in sauce. Simmer sauce until thickened and oil on surface is a deep orange, about 15 minutes. (If using oregano, taste sauce after 10 minutes of simmering, adding more salt and oregano as needed.) Discard basil and chili (if using). □



Cookbook author Lidia Bastianich checks out tomatoes at Eataly NYC in New York, Jan. 22, 2014.

(Angel Franco/The New York Times)

to have a grandma in the kitchen, stirring for three hours, to make your own sauce," said Frank Prisinzano, who makes four different tomato sauces at his restaurant Sauce in the East Village. "Marinara, after 25 minutes, it's dead."

Back in the last century, when most Americans cooks had never heard of "pasta" (it was called macaroni), there was one kind of tomato sauce at the supermarket. It was smooth and sweet, came in a can and had a reliably faint onion flavor. Now there are hundreds.

Even basic sauce goes under many different names (tomato-basil, marinara, chunky onion-tomato, rustico, classic) and can easily cost \$10 a quart. Much better to buy a can of tomatoes and make your own.

There is nothing wrong with a slow-cooked sugo di pomodoro, a long-simmered smooth sauce with aromatics like onion and celery. Or the quick sauté of whole tomatoes, olive oil, minimal garlic and basil that produces pasta al pomodoro e basilico. Or a complex ragù, which often includes red meat and can cook for many hours, until the meat melts into the sauce.

But none of them is marinara, a simple combination that nonetheless requires

pan. This allows the sauce to cook evenly and thicken quickly.

Use fresh-tasting olive oil; it matters not whether from Italy or California or Greece. Use garlic cloves that are not sprouted or yellow, but firm and white. Once peeled, they can be thinly sliced or slivered, or left whole and lightly crushed, but not chopped or minced. The more the garlic cells are broken down, the more sulfurous molecules, which produce a



Marinara sauce with the taste and juice of fresh tomato, but also a velvety texture and the rich bite of olive oil in Union City, N.J., Jan. 22, 2014. The trick to perfect marinara is to cook it at a vigorous simmer, so that the tomatoes are cooked through just as the sauce becomes thick.

(Francesco Tonelli/The New York Times)

strong odor and flavor, are released. "Using lots of garlic is a stereotype of Italian food, but the way we use it

they said, work with long, thin shapes like spaghetti; chunky ones usually demand a stubby shape, with